

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

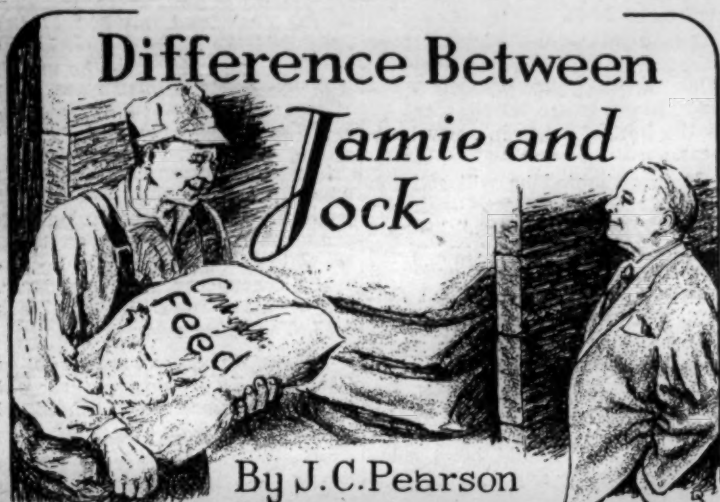
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Difference Between Jamie and Jock

By J.C. Pearson

Jamie A. and Jock B. were born in Scotland. They came to America with their parents when mere lads, but grew to manhood in different localities. Jamie was a laborer working in a grain elevator. He was converted while young and became an earnest Christian and personal worker. He had what might be called a "sanctified pocket," that is, a pocket set apart for the one purpose of containing gospel tracts. These he often gave to farmers and others who came to the elevator to sell or buy grain and feed. Whenever opportunity afforded, he always had a good word for his Master, the Lord Jesus.

Jock was prosperous and soon acquired a sufficiency of this world's goods. He then retired from active business life to live in the town where Jamie lived and worked. Not wishing to be idle, Jock kept some flocks of fine poultry. This required that he call at the elevator frequently for feed. There he became acquainted with his fellow countryman; and, because few Scotch folk were in the locality, a warm friendship developed. They had frequent talks, in which Jamie gave expression to his "full assurance of faith" (Heb. 10:22).

One day Jock said to Jamie, "I have been taking note of your talk much of late. You seem to have entire confidence when speaking of the future life. I cannot do it.

There seems to be a vast difference between us which I cannot understand.

"I have noticed that—unlike others—you never mention your good works, your feelings, or your religion as the basis of your confidence, but you always quote a Scripture as the reason for your assurance. As you know, I have all this world's goods that my heart can desire, yet I would gladly give it all if I could face the future as you do. I wish you would bring your Bible to my home tonight and show me, if you can, what is the difference between us, and how I can have that difference removed."

Jamie replied, "Sorry, Jock, but I have an appointment this evening in the country. However, this is too important a matter to defer. God's Word says, 'Now is the accepted time, behold, now is the day of salvation' (II Cor. 6:2). Let us do this: take this paper and write down some references which I will give you. While I am in the country tonight, read these Scriptures carefully. If there is a warning in them, take it as meant for yourself. If a precious promise, comply with the conditions laid down, and claim it as your own. Put yourself into each verse, and before you have finished pondering them, you may

(Continued on page 12)

The Master's TOUCH

By Evangelist Gypsy Smith

(An English gypsy, who preached around the world, died a few years ago in his eighties.)

"And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse. When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment. For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole. And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague. And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes? And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me? And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing. But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth. And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague."—Mark 5:25-34.



Gypsy Smith

In my last address I tried to speak to you from the three cases given in the fifth chapter of Mark's Gospel, and I tried to show you that in this chapter of incurables Jesus proved Himself Lord over devils, disease, and death. And then we turned the jewel round and caught another flash of its beauty, and we saw that Jesus is the man's Christ, the woman's Christ, and the child's Christ.

Now I want to speak about the middle case, this woman who had

suffered many things of many physicians and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse. So Mark says; and he says practically that all her attempts at healing, though they were many, and though they were the best she could procure, though she consulted the best skill, the wisest of the physicians, all her attempts only aggravated, tantalized, excited hopes that only ended in despair, and she was worse when they finished their attempts than before they started.

Some Reader, Like This Woman, Has Tried Men, Cults, Religion Without Salvation

And that woman but represents multitudes. Perhaps you are long—
(Continued on page 5)

Scottish Preacher Against Sword

By the Editor

In April, 1955, it was my privilege to spend one week in The Billy Graham All-Scotland Crusade, Glasgow, Scotland. I was greatly impressed with the hunger of preachers in Scotland. It was my privilege to speak briefly once to some 600 of them assembled in a Glasgow Church, primarily to hear Dr. Graham; and I found a most gracious hearing in the famous Tent Hall of Glasgow, where I spoke on a Sunday evening, and in Billhead Baptist Church, as well as in personal fellowship with many.

I offered to help and promised the evangelistic committee and Dr. Graham's party that I would send my books on *Prayer—Asking and Receiving*, and *The Soul-Winner's Fire*, and a year's subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD, free, to the ministers who were active in the campaign, with the help of other Christians. Members of the committee promised to give me the names and they later sent hundreds of names. With sacrificial gifts, some Christians helped us send THE SWORD OF THE LORD and books to these ministers. We have had most grateful letters from many ministers.

However, not every minister involved appreciates the out-and-out fundamental position of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

We have just received a letter from Rev. James D. Yule, minister of the United Free Church of Scotland, Millwood Street, Glas-

gow. In fairness to him we publish his letter in full and the editor's answer.

Scotland Minister Defends "The Interpreter's Bible," Accuses Brother Sumner

"Dear Dr. Rice, I write this letter with sincere regret, but I am convinced that it is right that I should do so.

"Ever since the All-Scotland Crusade I and many of my fellow ministers have been in receipt of THE SWORD OF THE LORD week by week. We have appreciated the spirit of good will which prompted that gift.

"Now, however, I am writing
(Continued on page 7)

Will the Rapture Precede The Great Tribulation?

By Evangelist John Linton
328 Belle Isle View, Riverside, Windsor, Canada

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also."—John 14:3.



Dr. John Linton

The Bible describes this translation of the church from earth to Heaven as one of the events connected with the return of Christ and the end of the age. The dead shall be raised, the living believers changed, and in bodies immortal they "shall be caught up together . . . to meet the Lord in the air" (I Thess. 4:17). This translation is called the rapture of the church.

Scripture also states that this age will end in a period of unexampled world judgment called the Great Tribulation (Rev. 7:14), when the wrath of God shall be poured from Heaven upon unbelieving men. Every Scripture that describes the tribulation plainly declares, or clearly implies that its anguish and suffering, its awful destruction will be unparalleled in all the centuries of human existence.

Now we cannot explain away, or treat lightly the Great Tribulation. It is described both in the plainest prose and the most terrible imagery. So destructive, so universal, so calamitous, so overwhelming will it be, that Jesus said in the plainest language that He could use, that unless God in mercy cut short the period nobody would be left alive on this earth! He said, "Except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved." The tribulation period is believed to be seven years and they will be the most awful seven years this world has ever known.

The tribulation will be immediately followed by the coming of Christ to the earth. The question before us is, When does the translation of the church take place? Will the church be removed from earth to Heaven to escape this period of God's wrath, or do the millions of believers constituting the church pass through that awful

(Continued on page 7)

ELVIS PRESLEY!

Discussed by 2 preachers on page 2. One sermon featured in Life Magazine.

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S. S. Teachers need Commentary on Matthew, "The King of the Jews," for first 16 lessons in 1957. 502 pages, \$4.50 plus 23c postage, or at your book dealers.

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What Is Behind the Current ELVIS PRESLEY RAGE?

Sermon by Pastor Bob Gray, Trinity Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Florida, Sunday Night, August 12th, 1956, Featured in LIFE MAGAZINE.

"I pray not that thou shouldst take them out of the world, but that thou shouldst keep them from evil. They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world."—John 17:15, 16.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world."—I John 2:15, 16.

In keeping with my announced sermon title, I shall endeavor to speak tonight on the subject: "What's Behind the Current Elvis Presley Rage?" The teenagers of our city have become greatly enamored over the visit this last Friday and Saturday of Elvis Presley, popular adolescent idol and star of radio and television. All six of his performances at the Florida Theater were sold out before show time according to the reports that I have received. Thousands of young people from Jacksonville and surrounding area thronged to watch Mr. Presley perform and climaxed his appearances by screaming hysterically while many girls wept openly. Scores of policemen were on hand to calm the crowds and keep order.

For the benefit of those present who are not acquainted with the career or person of Elvis Presley, I have obtained this billboard poster advertising his local appearance with a picture of the singing star in action. As you can easily tell by this photograph, Mr. Presley is a young man, rather nice looking, and plays a guitar. His musical career is scarcely more than two years old, and he left a truck driving job in Tennessee to enter the entertainment field. He is unmarried, lives with his parents when home, and obviously has very little education. Yet, in just this short period of time, Elvis Presley has skyrocketed to fame and is now the number one personality in show business.

But in the midst of all this popularity and glamor there has come a shocking aftereffect in the lives of Mr. Presley's fans. Serious and soberminded citizens-groups as well as many worried parents are waxing bold to declare their fears and alarm over the moral quality of Presley's stagelike antics! There can be no doubt that a Presley personal appearance show would be a complete failure at any institute for the blind! The suggestive bodily movements that appeal to teen-age passions have been primarily responsible for the degree of success that his recent city-to-city tours have enjoyed.

It was gratifying to learn of the appearance of the Optimist Club members before Juvenile Judge Marion W. Gooding requesting that no lewd or lascivious performances be permitted. I would also like to commend Judge Gooding before this congregation as a man of great spiritual integrity and deep Christian conviction for having taken the public stand for decency that he did. No one could accuse him of being vote-minded or seeking popular favor whenever he issued his mandate to Mr. Presley demanding clean performances

before the very first show. We here in Jacksonville should thank God daily for a man like our Juvenile Judge who is so vitally interested in the spiritual and moral welfare of our young people and children.

Let me say right here in the beginning, however, that I am not here tonight to destructively criticize or run down Mr. Presley as an individual person. Since I have never met him personally, I am not qualified to do more than dis-

cuss the type of personality, ambition, character, and display of talent that he has made a matter of public record for all of America and the world to see. When the Bible condemns sin, it does so without respect of persons. When the Bible sets forth truth, it does so without regard for the opinions and attitudes of those who oppose it.

I have prayed for Elvis Presley to be saved and will continue to do so. His life as a born-again, consecrated Christian could mean so much to the cause of Jesus Christ and Christian testimony. It thrills my heart to think of the impact made for Jesus Christ by the noble decision of Colleen Townsend, who turned her back on the sins and vice of Hollywood and a promising movie career to serve Jesus Christ! There can be no question but that a real spiritual awakening could take place among America's young people if a person like Elvis Presley were to get saved and become a Spirit-filled witness for Jesus Christ! It would clearly demonstrate the saving, transforming power of our Lord Jesus Christ.

It seems to me that the young people are not completely responsible for their rash and ranting reaction to Presley but rather

(Continued on page 11)



Rev. Bob Gray, Trinity Baptist Church, Jacksonville, Florida, Preaching on Elvis Presley

Life Magazine Visits Trinity Baptist Church

Reporters Cover Special ELVIS PRESLEY Service for Special Article in August 27 Issue.

By Pastor Bob Gray
Jacksonville, Florida

Popular singer Elvis Presley was in Jacksonville on the weekend of August 10th and 11th to perform at a personal appearance stage show in one of the local theaters. Interest in his coming was widespread. Most of the teenagers had already heard about the violent audience reaction to his hip-swaying singing style in other cities. A question arose in the minds of many as to whether or not they should attend, and not a few young people either came by to see me in person or telephoned to ask my opinion on the matter. Since I have always tried to analyze current trends in the light of the Bible, I felt an obligation to our young people to bring the message contained in this issue. An advertisement about the sermon for Sunday night, August 12th, was carried in a local newspaper on the Saturday church page.

It was a real pleasure to work

with Life reporters Robert W. Kelley and Richard Stolley who attended the service, took the pictures, and wrote the story in the August 27th issue. We are grateful to Mr. Thomas Logue of the Jacksonville Journal who called first of all, and then for inquiry during the Sunday School hour by Life's reporters. In response to their request, we invited them to be present and cover the entire service Sunday evening.

It is the sincere hope and prayer of this pastor-editor that God will use the message to win souls and call Christians to a separated life for Jesus Christ. The climax of this service was seen during the invitation when precious souls came forward accepting Christ as personal Saviour and Lord. God can show His Divine approval on either a sermon or a service in no greater way than this.

What I Think About "Wiggle Worm" Elvis Presley

By Evangelist Freddie Gage
7709 Bearden Lane, Dallas, Texas

The teenagers of America from coast to coast and even in other countries have gone completely mad over a 21-year-old singer with the Victorian side burns who is also becoming the sex symbol of American boys and girls.

Every place we go the first question I am asked is, Freddie, what do you think of Elvis Presley? I am aware of the fact he is the hottest thing in show business.

It is estimated he will sell ten million records; "Heart Break Hotel," "Blue Suede Shoes," "Hound Dog," "Don't Be Cruel," and "Love Me Tender" this year and will make more than one million dollars.

In Dallas, Texas, one night 26,000 teenagers turned out to hear, or, maybe I should say, see Elvis because there can be no doubt that a Presley personal appearance show would be a complete failure at any institute for blind people.

The suggestive bodily movements that appeal to teen-age passions have been primarily responsible for the degree of success that he is having from city to city.

Someone has said if he should break his hips he would have to quit singing. I agree. What makes him TICK?

The Fort Worth Press states he is a God-loving kid and has a sincere religious feeling. There may be some truth to his being religious but there is a great deal of difference in being religious and being a born-again Christian.

Ed Sullivan signed Presley for three shows at the fantastic price of \$50,000.

The Frontier Casino Night Club in Las Vegas paid him \$7,500 per week.

His new Hollywood film, "Love Me Tender," which has just become the new name for his latest song, cost \$1,500,000.

Elvis has lifted rock and roll right out of the night club and slapped it into every home in the nation.

A Fort Worth paper stated the biggest and most obnoxious Presley Fan Club in the world is situated here in Dallas with 8,000 teen-age members. It also has a screaming, squealing loyalty. The fan clubs have sold more than 1,000,000 of his pictures at \$1.00 each. The Fort Worth Star Telegram has this to say, "Hysteria Grips Soxers." Mass hysteria completely gripped the crowd—mostly teen-age girls. Two full house shows with over 14,000 teenagers watched the "duck tail" young rock and roller who became a show business millionaire over night.

The girls screamed, "Elvis, I am going to die," "Elvis, I am going to faint." Presley closed his eyes and began the sensual vulgar swaying of his body that has made him a nationwide teen-age idol. They screamed. Tears ran down their faces. They swarmed toward the stage. Twenty policemen shook their heads in amazement and ushered them back to their seats. Many were there in chartered buses from various cities.

Two girls proudly displayed scars on their arms where they had carved the word "Elvis" with pocket knives.

A married woman managed to get back stage to tell him that she had her husband's Cadillac outside and asked him to come with her. Presley, who has three Cadillacs, declined. Instead he had a date with an airline hostess who had flown in to meet him.

When asked why he was not married, he replied, "What's the use of having a milk cow when you can get milk and butter through the fence." God have mercy.

A national magazine reported that over 10,000 girls propose to him monthly by correspondence.

When the Bible condemns sin, it does so without respect of persons. When the Bible sets forth truth, it does so without regard of opinions and attitudes who oppose it. The Bible says in I John 2:15, 16, 17:

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever."

The Bible demands that those who name the name of Christ must not be guilty of loving this present worldly system or anything on which it is based.

If someone cares to take issue, ask them to read II Corinthians 5:17. The Bible says:

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new."

When sinners accept Jesus Christ they are born again. The Holy Spirit gives them spiritual regeneration. Those that are saved have new spiritual natures. Presley has no evidence of the new birth. The Bible says in Matthew 7:20, "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

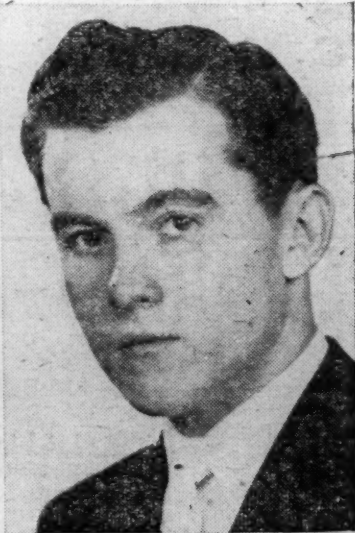
In view of the wretched spiritual conditions under which most of these young people have been reared, how can we blame them for letting off emotional steam when Presley starts his "burlesque show." They are emotional beings and are going to find an outlet somewhere. Iceberg congregations in most of our churches are against any kind of emotion in the church so the only place left for young people to release their joy and emotion is in the world.

I believe Elvis Presley has become one of America's No. 1 reasons for the two and one-half million juvenile delinquents and sex delinquents among teenagers of our nation.

In Corpus Christi he has been banned forever. The chief of police said his rock and roll performance was detrimental to the youth and was contributing to delinquency.

Juvenile Judge Marion W. Gooding in Jacksonville, Florida, demanded that his lewd, lascivious performances be banned.

A Bartow paper stated on November 4 that Elvis Presley was



Evangelist Freddie Gage

named as cause for divorce suit. Circuit Judge Don Register granted a divorce to a man who complained that his wife became so entranced with the music of Elvis Presley she left their home and baby untended.

"Presley Haircut Ruled Not Right for High School," Mt. Clemens, Michigan, November 17. Robert Tagrnetton must take the scissors to his Elvis Presley style haircut if he wants to go back to high school. Circuit Judge Alton H. Noe so ruled yesterday in denying the 16-year-old a writ of mandamus that would have compelled school authorities to readmit him. Robert, the lone holdout among 45 high school boys who were ordered to trim their long hair and shave off their sideburns who had

(Continued on page 12)



Elvis Presley in Typical Pose

Questions Answered by The Editor

Can you tell a hypocrite when you see one? Has a Christian ever a right to judge whether another is saved?

The Word of God is sharper than a two-edged sword. It is like a fire and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces, so says Hebrews 4:12 and Jeremiah 23:29. Several years ago the editor felt profoundly impressed with the command of Jesus, "Judge not." With Matthew 7:1-5 and Luke 6:36, 37, as a basis, he wrote an article. Many letters show that the article did much good. Some confessed the sin and asked God to help them forsake it. Others who were guilty made excuses and insisted they were still able to judge other's hearts correctly by their lives. Still others inquired about further details, asked questions.

Here again we print those Scriptures, giving the command of Jesus to "Judge not."

"Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure ye mete it shall be measured to you again. And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Or how wilt thou say to thy brother, Let me pull out the mote out of thine eye; and behold a beam is in thine own eye? Thou hypocrite, first cast out the beam out of thine own eye; and then thou shalt see clearly to cast out the mote out of thy brother's eye."

—Matthew 7:1-5.

"Be ye therefore merciful, as your father also is merciful. Judge not and ye shall not be judged: condemn not and ye shall not be condemned: forgive, and ye shall be forgiven."

—Luke 6:36, 37.

A kindly and greatly appreciated letter from a Christian brother gives a viewpoint that is too widely held by good people, I am convinced. I will give you here a large part of his letter:

"I am here in C. S. and have been reading your literature and your paper. You have an excellent paper and I am glad to see that you are not afraid to tackle controversial subjects. It really brings one's mind into action to read your articles and shakes one out of his spiritual lethargy."

"After reading your article on 'Judging,' which you say struck fire in some quarters, I felt like

writing you my reaction. Of course your main contention is correct and I do not see how any one can dispute it. Harsh, rash and unchristian judgment is a sin and too often divisive and hurtful. But on the other hand I would like to see you take up the other aspect of judging commenting on Matthew 7:15-20, Acts 8:18-23, Galatians 1:8, First Corinthians 2:12-16; First Corinthians 5:11-13, First Corinthians 3:6-10, 15-18. What do you say? There are many true saints who are suffering actual persecution from unsaved hypocrites in the church. The first reference I give shows that these hypocrites are so self-deceived that they really believe they are bound for Heaven. The person of spiritual discernment knows they are lost and of course you believe they should be warned or you would not be an evangelist. What I want to bring out is this: Although you have a message for those who are guilty of sinful judging, you are putting a club in the hands of hypocrites to injure the true saints who may have a Bible warrant for judging and warning the sinner. The hypocrite will gloat over your article unless you bring out the other aspect, I am afraid. The apostles surely judged and teach the child of God indwelt by the Holy Spirit is the only one who is really qualified to judge."

That is a forthright, intelligent, and brotherly letter, and I have answered it prayerfully. I believe the letter and answer are of general interest and I give my answer here to help stop this wicked practice that has grown up among Christians, of saying that they can tell whether one is saved or not by observing life, doctrine, and separation.

Dear Brother.....:

Thank you for your kindly and thoughtful letter concerning articles in THE SWORD OF THE LORD on "Judge Not!" I am grateful for intelligent and friendly readers, like yourself. Yet I feel a special need for re-emphasizing the command of God against judging.

My article called attention to the clear teaching that Christians may judge whether one is a false teacher, that is, may judge doctrine by the Bible. That is the clear teaching of Jesus in Matthew 7:15 to 20. I fear you did not carefully enough digest that part of the article. Jesus said:

"Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits."—Matt. 7:15, 16.

Then verse 20 below says again about these same false prophets, false teachers, leaders of false cults:

"Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

Help Expose False Cults

We are glad to commend the Religion Analysis Service, Inc., of 902 Hennepin Avenue, Minneapolis 3, Minnesota. This non-profit organization helps, in exposure of false cults, such as Seventh-Day Adventism, Spiritism, Christian Science, etc. We suggest that those needing information or literature on false cults write them. Some will want to subscribe for their magazine, *The Discerner*.

That is, you will thus know a false teacher by his doctrine.

That could not be plainer, I think. In the first verse of the same chapter, Jesus expressly says to us, "Judge not, that ye be not judged," and calls one a hypocrite who does! No one is permitted to judge of another's heart. You simply cannot do it accurately and are forbidden to attempt it. If you do judge others, as to whether they are saved or not, judge the hearts, motives, etc., you are called a hypocrite and are warned that you will suffer the same judgment. DON'T DO IT! But about doctrine you can judge. You cannot tell about Mary Baker Eddy's heart, but you can certainly tell about her doctrine. You do not know whether she was a Christian, but it's certain she was a false prophet.

The distinction is made by Jesus, not me. Judge people's doctrine, yes, but do not judge them. To do so is a sin.

Likewise, Christians may judge people's lives and works. If a man gets drunk, you know that is wrong. You do not know why the man got drunk, nor how sorry he is, nor whether he is saved. But if he persists in such conduct, you are commanded to avoid him, the church is to withdraw fellowship with him as was commanded about the fornicator of First Corinthians, chapter five. Or Christians may judge between two brethren as to which is right in a difference, to arbitrate the matter, as commanded in First Corinthians 6:1-8. You may judge works and lives, but not people, that is, not the hearts, not motives, and never whether one is saved or not.

Peter never said whether Ananias and Sapphira were saved or not. I think they were; certainly the Bible does not deny it. Peter and John did not say that Simon was unsaved, in Acts 8:19-24. I think he was truly saved. Verse 13 says he "believed also." If the others were saved who believed, so was Simon. But he was still under the yoke of superstition, his desires were not right. The way they knew his desire was not right was that he himself told what it was—not that they were smart enough to guess it.

Not a single Scripture ever gives you the right to judge any one as to heart and motive or whether they are saved.

That there are unsaved people in the churches I have not a doubt. The Bible expressly teaches that there would be. The parable of the tares and of the net in Matthew 13, the parable of the wedding in Matthew 22, and the parable of the ten virgins in Matthew 25 clearly are intended to show that many claim to be saved, or expect to reach Heaven, who have false hopes and are lost. But we are expressly taught that we are not to judge which are tares and which are wheat, lest we root up the wheat also, thinking it tares (Matt. 13:29, 30). YOU DO NOT KNOW WHO IS SAVED AND WHO IS LOST. TO DARE SAY YOU DO IS A SIN, violating the plain command of Christ.

You say, "Harsh, rash, and unchristian judgment is sin." But that is not what Jesus said. He did not say, "Judge not harshly," or "Judge not rashly." He said, simply, plainly, emphatically, "JUDGE NOT." Judgment of others by a nice, fundamentalist, prayerful, tithing, mild-mannered, religious Pharisee is still judging, and is still forbidden. Judging mildly, judging wisely, judging kindly, is still judging, and is as

THE EDITOR'S Notes by John R. Rice

Thank you, beloved readers, for all the Christmas cards and greetings you have sent. The dear Lord reward you. And others, if you remembered to pray for us, whether you sent a greeting or not, we hold you dear and thank you for your help.

This is written December 26th. After a two-day holiday most of the workers are back. I had, of course, some work on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, but was greatly relaxed, did not work through the whole day, had no deadlines, just time for my family, for meditation, prayer and settling some holy problems.

More Jungle Doctor Stories Beginning Next Week

God willing, next week we will begin publishing in THE SWORD OF THE LORD the first of fourteen chapters of the book, *Jungle Doctor Operates*. These are true stories by the medical missionary, Paul White, about his work in Tanganyika Territory in Central East Africa.

This time the stories will be about operations the doctor performed that gave sight to those blind or going blind, how in this medical mission hospital in the jungle, lives were saved at forty-two cents each and certain blindness avoided at seven cents per eye! And all along we read of Daudi, the native assistant who always finds a spiritual lesson of salvation by Christ's substitutionary death in every case of

certainly judging as the other kind, AND AS PLAINLY FORBIDDEN in the Bible! As to hearts, motives, personality, whether one is saved or not, Jesus simply said, "Judge not, that ye be not judged."

You say, "What I want to bring out is this: Although you have a message for those who are guilty of sinful judging, you are putting a club in the hands of hypocrites to injure the true saints who may have a Bible warrant for judging and warning the sinner." About that, I must say some plain but kindly, and I pray, helpful things.

First, you say I have a message for those who are guilty of sinful judging. Well, all who judge people's hearts and whether they are saved or not are "guilty of sinful judging." Those who claim to be "true saints" and pick out others whom they call "hypocrites" by their own supposed superior judgment are sinning. If a man tells me he has not been born again by faith in Christ, then I have a right to suppose he is unsaved, by his own statement. If a man says he is saved by his

(Continued on page 12)

sickness and healing, and of Samson, of James, of old Sechelela, the hospital matron. The superstitions of heathendom, the ignorance, the dirt, the witch doctors, the sin, and what the Gospel does when preached with loving words and healing care, are impressed most strongly. Here is some of the best missionary literature written in this generation. It is most readable and interesting. There are illustrations all along, chapter by chapter. So get ready not to miss a one of these true missionary stories of *Jungle Doctor Operates*, beginning next week. And you'd better tell your friends. It would be a good thing to rush subscriptions for others to get THE SWORD during these days. During these issues, the price is \$2.50 per year.

We Gladly Recommend Evangelists

The Sword has a staff of seven fine evangelists including Dr. Bill Rice, director, Dr. Oscar Wells, and Evangelists Joe B. Rice, Paul Ferguson, Ernest Habecker, Kenneth Chapman and Walt Handford. These men are carefully selected, spiritual, successful.

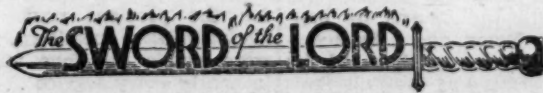
We also keep in touch with about one hundred other evangelists, the best in the world. We are glad to recommend evangelists for your needs, if you will give us time. Please address Dr. Bill Rice, Director of Sword Staff of Evangelists, 214 West Wesley, Wheaton, Illinois, or write this editor at any time.

A Reminder of Good Habits for the New Year

Doubtless many Christians have made honest resolutions to live for the Lord better in 1957. Let us suggest again what we believe to be a very minimum standard for happy Christian living in the year. 1. Read the Bible through, at least four chapters a day. 2. Have a secret time of prayer, preferably in early morning. 3. Daily confess and forsake any known sins. 4. Daily forgive anyone who you may feel has wronged you. "Let not the sun go down on your wrath." 5. Give a tithe and freewill offerings with prayerful seeking of God's will as to where and how to give. 6. Put soul winning first in your prayer, your plans, your activities. Will you try to make these good habits your own?

Put the Sword Foundation in Your Will

Many Christians would do well to put THE SWORD OF THE LORD in their will. Often money, stocks, bonds, a house, or other property could be very wisely left to THE SWORD OF THE LORD in one's will. Thus you could not only serve the Lord while you live, but could honor Him in your Home-going. Money left to children is often a curse. Will you prayerfully consider whether you should put THE SWORD OF THE LORD in your will? After your death you will be helping to get out the Gospel and defend the faith and stir revival fire.



AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING REVIVAL WEEKLY

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Dr. Bob Jones SAYS:



I quote from a letter received a few days ago from an alumnus of Bob Jones University: "We were proud of the school while we were there, but we are prouder still now that we are able to effectively apply that which we learned at Bob Jones University.... In the last few months I have come to appreciate more than ever the things you said in chapel, such as: 'Finish the job'; 'Never sacrifice the permanent on the altar of the immediate'; and 'Do right if the stars fall.'"

We have had more letters similar to the one from which we quoted from former students in recent weeks than we have ever had before. As we have said in a previous statement, we believe that God called Bob Jones University into existence and for the last thirty years has trained the institution to do a special job that must be done in America at this time. God has given a new assurance to both my son, the

President, and to me, the founder, of His great purpose and unusual blessing in the work of this institution.

Remember now, we are pleading with you Christian people to do three things. First: Pray for us as you have never prayed before. Pray every day and pray earnestly. Second: If you know young people that you believe can be trained for real, honest-to-goodness Christian leadership, recommend Bob Jones University to these young people. Third: Invest some of the money that God has given you in this great work. I do not believe there is any place you could put some of the Lord's money and get greater returns for His cause than money you invest in Bob Jones University. Please let us hear from you. Thank you and God bless you.

BOB JONES, FOUNDER
BOB JONES UNIVERSITY
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(Advertisement)

WITH THE Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editor

(NOTE: We are happy to publish honest reports of blessed revivals from trustworthy evangelists and churches. However, if you send us your report for publication, PLEASE give exact statistics, as far as possible, concerning conversions, rededications, additions, etc., or we may not print it. We especially appreciate reports from pastors and chairmen of union campaigns.)

EVANGELIST J. OSCAR WELLS, Box 417, Bethany, Oklahoma, recently closed a revival meeting at the First Baptist Church, Humboldt, Kansas. Seven accepted Christ as Saviour, 12 rededications were made, and 3 young people pledged themselves for full-time Christian service. "Our church has been mightily blessed . . ." writes the pastor, Rev. Robert R. Wheatley.

EVANGELIST E. J. DANIELS, P.O. Box 3428, Orlando, Florida, saw 64 people come to the Lord for salvation during his revival campaign at the Glen Park Baptist Church, Gary, India. "We appreciated very much Dr. Daniels' earnest preaching and his co-operation during the meetings," says Rev. James L. Gurley, pastor.

EVANGELIST JIMMY O'QUINN, P.O. Box 711, Garland, Texas, and Johnny Bisagno, Tulsa, Oklahoma, led the Calvary Baptist Church, Port Acres, Texas, in a fine revival. Forty-four additions to the church were made—36 by baptism and 8 by letter. Thirty-seven families agreed to start family altars and 62 came forward stating that they would begin to tithe. Five young people dedicated their lives for special Christian service. Rev. B. A. Carlin, pastor, feels that "Brother O'Quinn has a passion for souls and is a fine personal worker. His life and his message are a challenge to any people . . . Brother Bisagno did a wonderful job with the music . . ."

Rev. Harley M. Pulis, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Thermopolis, Wyoming, reports 8 professions of salvation during a revival campaign conducted by **EVANGELIST JACK YOST**, Route 2, Berwick, Pennsylvania. Twenty-eight children were dealt with about salvation in the children's meetings led by Mrs. Yost. "We feel that our church was richly blessed," says Brother Pulis.

EVANGELIST R. H. SNEED, Box 6915, Seminary Hill, Fort Worth, Texas, has sent reports on three recent meetings. At the Greenwood Village Baptist Church, Houston, Texas, Rev. Harold Clayton, pastor, 21 people were saved and joined the church by baptism. There were 9 additions to the church by letter, 34 rededications, and 8 pledges to begin tithing. In Moore, Oklahoma, at the First Baptist Church, 11 joined the church by baptism, 10 by letter, and 3 rededications were made. Rev. M. H. Koonce is pastor. Eight united with the church by baptism, 2 by letter, and 1 by statement during a meeting led by Evangelist Sneed at the Fair Baptist Church, Comanche, Oklahoma. Five rededications were reported. Rev. Garnett Cole is pastor.

EVANGELIST FREDDIE GAGE, 7709 Bearden Lane, Dallas, Texas, and his singing companion, Jimmy Snellen, Garland, Texas, were recently with the First Baptist Church of Pawhuska, Oklahoma. Thirty-four conversions were recorded and 17 came into the church by letter. One hundred rededications of life were made, and 49 pledged to begin family altars. Dr. J. P. Dane, pastor, heartily recommends these men and writes, "We have experienced a genuine spiritual awakening. I have been having the largest pastor's training class in my ministry as a result of the revival. Attendance at all meetings of the church has shown a substantial increase . . ."

EVANGELIST DON CHENOWETH, 720 West Kentucky Avenue, Tampa, 3, Florida, recently held a two-week meeting for the Buffalo Avenue Baptist Church of Tampa. Twenty-eight professed

faith in Christ as Saviour, 2 joined the church by letter, and 5 rededications were reported. Twenty-six of the 28 people converted expressed their desire to be baptized and join the church.

At the Pensacola Baptist Temple in Florida, 19 people were saved and joined the church by baptism in services led by Evangelist Chenoweth. Two united with the church by letter and there were 23 rededications of life.

Sixteen first-time decisions for Christ were made in revival services at the First Baptist Church of Craig, Colorado, led by **EVANGELIST ED NELSON**, 954 Quari Court, Aurora, Colorado. Rev. James S. Dolin, pastor, writes that "Brother Nelson has left a lasting impression on the members of our church by his simple and direct preaching."

Ten people accepted Christ as Saviour in a campaign led by **EVANGELIST JOE MILLER**, Maple Avenue, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania, at the Newtown Evangelical United Brethren Church, Newtown, Pennsylvania. Mr. R. H. Arndt, chairman of the evangelistic committee, reports that "Brother Miller is a fearless preacher of the Word and has a great desire to win the lost . . ."

EVANGELIST FRANK H. HARPELL, 47 Pinevale Avenue, Reading, Massachusetts, saw 14 people make first-time decisions for Christ in a meeting at the Baptist church in Compton, New Hampshire. Rev. Millard Gile is pastor.

EVANGELIST PAUL E. GRABILL, Box 44, Grabill, Indiana, was with the Calvary Missionary Church, Wichita, Kansas, in revival services recently. Five people were saved and 4 restored to fellowship. Late in October the Grabills were privileged to see a revival moving of the Spirit at the Evangelical Mennonite Church of Lafayette, Indiana. In November, the Grabills again saw many conversions and deeper life experiences at the Olivet Missionary Church of Peoria Heights, Illinois, and at First Missionary Church of Flint, Michigan. At Peoria Heights several Catholics were saved.

Rev. Lloyd Holm, pastor of the Cedar Bible Church, Cedar Falls, Iowa, writes about a fine three-week meeting led by **EVANGELIST LLOYD R. SMITH**, 3313 East Seventh, Des Moines, Iowa. "I can hardly express in words my deep heartfelt appreciation and rejoicing for the precious souls won to Christ in these meetings . . . There were public decisions for Christ in nearly every service . . ."

EVANGELIST GEORGE SWEETING, Box 170, Ridgewood, New Jersey, conducted a city-wide campaign in Everett, Massachusetts. This was the first co-operative campaign for Everett. Evangelist Sweeting is leaving the United States to lead campaigns in Belfast, Ireland, and Glasgow, Scotland.

Rev. E. A. Piper, pastor of the Non-Sectarian Church of West Wyomissing, Pennsylvania, reports that "there was a real revival among God's people, and several first-time decisions for Christ" in a meeting under the direction of **EVANGELIST JOE MILLER**, Maple Avenue, Camp Hill, Pennsylvania. Rev. Harold Lyman was song leader. Both men were asked to the church because of commendations seen in THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

EVANGELIST BOB OUGHTON, P.O. Box 50, Belleville, Illinois, recently finished a two-week revival meeting at the Burns Alliance Church, Nowthen, Min-

Peter's Great Confession

By Evangelist John R. Rice

13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

15 He saith unto them, But whom say ye that I am?

16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God.

17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona; for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

—Matt. 16:13-17

"Coasts" (vs. 13) means borders. Caesarea Philippi was a town some twenty-five or thirty miles north of the Sea of Galilee. Remember that thus far this ministry of Jesus was all in a small territory around the Sea of Galilee.

The question of Jesus (vs. 13) was not because He did not know what men said, but rather, evidently, to test the disciples. Herod, particularly, thought that Jesus was John the Baptist risen from the dead because of Herod's own guilty conscience (Matt. 14:2). John and Jesus had preached the same theme, "Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matt. 3:2; 4:17). Likewise both had disciples baptized. Many were expecting Elias (Elijah) to return to the earth (Matt. 27:47-49; John 1:21). This expectation was based on the plain statement of the prophecy in Malachi 4:5, 6. Elijah will come again, evidently just before the day of the Lord, in the Great Tribulation period. It is thought he will probably be

one of the two witnesses mentioned in Revelation 11:3. Practically all admitted that Jesus was a Prophet. Most did not believe He was the Saviour, the Son of God.

"But whom say ye that I am?" Jesus asked. The answer of Peter in verse 16 pleased Jesus greatly. Jesus' words, "Blessed art thou," do not mean, "Peter, you will be rewarded for this statement," but rather they mean, "You have already been blessed in having this revelation made to you." Jesus had not yet died on the cross nor risen from the dead, and the positive conviction which Peter had was not the result of his own wisdom nor of his weighing the evidences, but rather a revelation from God. We must remember that we now have much more evidence that Christ is the Son of God than people then had. The evidence of His resurrection from the dead as given by Paul in I Corinthians 15:1-8 is irresistible. All the evidence has been checked and rechecked repeatedly and the passing centuries continue to prove that Christ is all He claimed to be—the fulfillment of prophecies, the theme of the Bible, the Son of God, the Saviour of the world. The evidence is overwhelming. But still it is true that the trusting conviction that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, is given by the Lord Himself (see I John 5:1). No man can come to Christ except the Father draw him (John 6:44). See also John 6:37a). Preachers and Christian workers need to realize that there must be a supernatural work in the heart of a sinner. Conviction is a work of the Holy Spirit, as truly as conversion is. God may allow us to be used in bringing this conviction

and decision, but regeneration is a supernatural event. The unaided natural mind that is at enmity with God (Rom. 8:7; I Cor. 2:14) cannot understand the things of God, cannot be trusted to be convinced by the evidence, however strong, that Jesus is the Christ. However, each person is given more light than he follows. Infidels and atheists are often very brainy and intelligent men who become fools on this matter. Pride and other sins often make it so that God turns them over to a reprobate mind that they may believe a lie and be damned (Rom. 1:28; II Thess. 2:10-12). Notice that God gives such a delusion, such a blindness and reprobate mind only to such people "because they received not the love of the truth" (II Thess. 2:10), and because "they did not like to retain God in their knowledge" (Rom. 1:28). People's heads get wrong because their hearts are wrong. It was revealed to Peter's mind that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God, because his heart was seeking to please God.

(The above is taken from the large commentary on the Gospel According to Matthew, 504 pages, called THE KING OF THE JEWS, by Editor John R. Rice. It is a verse-by-verse commentary in simple language, with thousands of references to other Scriptures, helps at hard places. Invaluable for teachers and preachers. Price, \$4.50 at your book dealers, or add 23c for postage and packing charges and order from Sword of the Lord Publishers, 214 West Wesley, Wheaton, Illinois.)

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Scriptureless Preaching

By A. O. Anderson, Chaffee, Missouri

However popular may be the modern style of Scriptureless preaching, it is certain that the first preachers, the inspired preachers, the preachers who turned the world upside down, were Bible preachers. Look at the Apostle Peter's sermon in the second chapter of Acts, Deacon Stephen's sermon in the seventh of Acts, the Apostle Paul's sermon in the thirteenth of Acts, and what are they but Bible readings? Nearly the whole of them consist of quotations from the Old Testament, and they do not contain a hint about talking with the stars, nor concerning the dignity of human nature, nor the progress of Christian civilization.

nesota. The pastor, Rev. Norman P. Foss, says that "some people were saved for whom prayers have gone up for many years . . . We believe that Brother Oughton is truly God's man with God's message . . ."

EVANGELIST JIMMY O'QUINN, P.O. Box 711, Garland, Texas, has just completed his second year in evangelistic work. In the 25 campaigns conducted there were 850 additions to the churches, 630 coming for baptism, 220 came into the churches by letter and 436 members pledged to begin tithing; 367 people vowed to start a family altar and 46 young people surrendered their lives to God for special service.

We praise God for His evident blessing on Brother O'Quinn's work.

EDITOR JOHN R. RICE had 15 days of revival services in the large Central Baptist Church, London, Ontario, October 7-21. God saved many people, and we are glad to hear repeated good news from the pastor, Rev. Arthur R. Pyke. He writes:

"We thank God for your ministry among us, and it is still bearing fruit. We have baptized some thirty-four since the meetings, and others are thinking seriously of this sacred step. This is not an easy situation, as you learned while here, but God is able . . ."

When Paul was in Thessalonica, he went into the synagogue, and three Sabbath days reasoned with them out of the Scriptures (mark it, out of the Scriptures). Opening and alleging that Christ must need have suffered, and rise again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is the Christ' (Acts 17:2, 3). When the Apostle was in Rome, there came many to him in his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets from morning till evening (Acts 28:23). It would puzzle most modern preachers to find enough about Jesus in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, to occupy them from morning till evening; but Jesus was the theme of the early preachers, and the Scriptures furnished their witnesses, and arguments, and proofs.

The New Testament is a small book, but it contains more than three hundred quotations from the Old Testament, besides many allusions to the words of holy men of old, who spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. Thus the Holy Ghost Himself has intimated in no uncertain way His approval of biblical preaching, and it possesses advantages which the commonest mind can readily perceive. First, the preacher can speak with authority because he is delivering a message for God. Second, he knows he is right, and, therefore, can be bold as a lion. Third, he cannot mislead sinners, for he tells them just what his Master has revealed. Fourth, he builds up Christians under his ministry into an intelligent, robust people who will not listen to the voice of the false charmer, charm they ever so wisely. Fifth, he is free from the worry that almost invariably attends the preaching of fine sermons, for having faithfully and prayerfully spoken what God has told him to say, he leaves the results with Him to whom they belong. Sixth, if his hearers do not like his teachings, he can quietly inform them that their controversy is not with him, but with the Lord.

(Continued on page 5)

Friend--Do You Know the Lord?

By Ford Porter

My Friends: I am asking you the most important question of life. Your joy and your sorrow for all ETERNITY depends upon it. The question is: Are you SAVED from sin? It is not if you are a member of some church, but, Are you SAVED from sin? It is not how good you are, but, ARE YOU SAVED? No one can enjoy the blessings of God or go to Heaven without being saved. Jesus said to Nicodemus in John 3:7 "YE MUST BE BORN AGAIN." God gives us in His Word the ONLY plan for Salvation. The plan is simple, you can be saved TODAY.

First, my friend, you must realize **YOU ARE A SINNER.**

Roman 3:10—"There is none righteous, no, not one."

Romans 3:22, 23—"For there is no difference: For ALL have sinned, and come short of the glory of God."

There is **NO CHANCE** to be saved unless you come to realize you are a **SINNER.**

Because you are a sinner, you are **CONDEMNED TO DIE.**

Romans 6:23—"For the wages of sin is death."

James 1:15—"Sin, bringeth forth death."

This means separation from God, in **HELL, FOREVER.** How terrible. Yes, my friend, but it is true. But God loved you so much, that **HE GAVE HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON,** Jesus Christ, as your **SUBSTITUTE,** Who bore **YOUR** sin, and died in **YOUR** place.

2 Corinthians 5:21—"He hath made **HIM** (Jesus) to be **SIN** for **US**, who knew no sin; that **WE** might **BE MADE** the **RIGHT-EOUSNESS** of God in **HIM.**"

1 Peter 2:24—"Who His **OWN** SELF bare **OUR** sins in **HIS** own body on the tree, that **WE**, being dead to sins, should live unto

righteousness: by whose stripes **WE WERE HEALED.**"

Now we cannot understand how our sin was laid upon Jesus, but God says in **HIS WORD** that it was. **SO YOUR SIN,** my friend, was laid **UPON JESUS** and **HE DIED IN YOUR PLACE.** It is true. God cannot lie.

The Philippian Jailor asked Paul and Silas: "What must **I DO** to be **SAVED?**"

Acts 16:31—"And they said, **BELIEVE** on the Lord Jesus Christ, and **THOU SHALT BE SAVED,** and thy house."

Simply believe on Him as the one who bore **YOUR SIN** and **DIED IN YOUR PLACE.** Now call upon **HIM.**

Romans 10:13—"For **WHOSOEVER** shall call upon the name of the Lord, **SHALL BE SAVED.**"

The first prayer for a **SINNER** to pray is given in Luke 18:13—"God be merciful **TO ME A SINNER.**" Now you are a sinner and surely you are sorry because of it. Right **NOW,** wherever you are lift your heart to God in prayer. It does not take a long, loud prayer, for God is **ANXIOUS** to save you. Just say: Oh God, I am a sinner and I am sorry. Have **MERCY** upon me, and **SAVE** me for Jesus' sake. Now just take **HIM** at His Word.

Romans 10:13—"For **WHOSOEVER,** (that includes **YOU**) shall call upon the name of the Lord, **SHALL BE SAVED, (SHALL BE,**

(Continued from page 1)

ing for spiritual healing, for soul satisfaction, you are groping for light. You are trying to climb up out of the slough of your despond; you desire to get your chains broken and your fetters snapped. You say you want the assurance of sins forgiven, to be in possession of peace with God. You believe there is something for you that Christians talk about, and that the Bible describes in the death and resurrection of the Son of God, somehow in a vague fashion believing it is for you, but never getting it, hunting after but never finding, hungry for and yet never satisfied, always thirsty and never getting a drink of the living stream. Oh, how many quacks some of you have consulted, how many earthly nostrums you have been prepared to take, how many spiritual physicians you have listened to! And some of you spend your time in hunting up religious quacks.

There has not been a preacher in town for twenty years that you have not heard. You boast that there has not been a mission held anywhere within reach but what you have been there. You are front-seaters, bench-warmers, religious tramps. Don't smile—I want you to see yourselves. You have been prepared to listen to anybody, any fad, any big person, any sensational story, any man-made message, any new thing. But you do not get healing that way. You have not healing that

no might or can, but) **SHALL BE SAVED.**"

Just take God at His **WORD.** When you have done what He has asked, **CLAIM SALVATION BY FAITH,** according to **HIS WORD. BELIEVE AND THOU SHALT BE SAVED.** No church, no lodge, no good works, **NO ONE BUT JESUS ONLY CAN SAVE YOU.**

The simple plan of salvation is: **YOU ARE A SINNER;** because you are a sinner you **MUST DIE** or else believe on Christ who was **YOUR SUBSTITUTE** and died in **YOUR PLACE.** Just call upon **HIM, REALIZING** you are a sinner and ask Him to have mercy upon you and save you for **JESUS' SAKE.** Then just take **HIM AT HIS WORD** and **BY FAITH CLAIM SALVATION.** You say "surely that is not all that is necessary to do to be saved." Yes it is, Absolutely all. Thank God many have been won to Christ by this simple plan. It is **SCRIPTURAL. IT IS GOD'S PLAN.** My friend, **BELIEVE IT AND FOLLOW IT TODAY.** Now is the time—Today is the day.

2 Corinthians 6:2—"Behold, **NOW** is the accepted time; Behold, **NOW** is the day of salvation."

Proverbs 27:1—"Boast not thyself of tomorrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."

If it is not perfectly clear, **READ IT OVER** and **OVER** until you understand it. Do not lay this tract down until you do. **YOUR SOUL** is worth more than all the world.

Mark 8:36, 37—"For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose **HIS OWN SOUL?** Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

BE SURE YOU ARE SAVED. YOU NEED SALVATION ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE. IF YOU LOSE YOUR SOUL YOU MISS HEAVEN AND LOSE ALL. GOD HELP YOU TO BE SAVED TODAY.

He will save you and also **KEEP YOU.**

1 Corinthians 10:13—"There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it."

DO NOT trust your feelings. They change. **STAND ON GOD'S PROMISES.** They NEVER change.

AFTER YOU ARE SAVED THERE ARE THREE THINGS TO PRACTICE DAILY FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH:

PRAY—You talk to God. **READ YOUR BIBLE**—God talks to you. **WITNESS**—You talk for God.

Matthew 10:32—"Whoever therefore shall confess me before men, him will I confess also before My Father which is in Heaven."

The Master's Touch

(Continued from page 1)

way; and if I could see you through God's microscope, the microscope of Calvary, I should see you worse today than you were ten years ago, with all your attempts at redemption. With all your attempts to become holy and righteous you are worse today than you were.

And you have come to hear this preacher. But at the beginning let me be plain with you. I cannot save you. That is beyond me. But I know one who can, and there is none like Him. He is the only Physician, He is the greatest Physician, He is the most wonderful Physician, He is the cure-all when He has charge of the case. He is never baffled, He can diagnose every case. He goes to the root of the mischief. There is no mistake

with Him. He never makes a blunder. He never apologizes. He never asks to be excused if you are conscious of sin and long for healing. Give Him the right of way with your case, and He will make a cure, complete, eternal. But He must have His way, then He heals. And all the poor, broken-down attempts at social, religious, and spiritual reform that you have seen, and all the backsliding, and the falls, and the blunders that you have seen around you, have all come about because Christ has

(Continued on page 6)

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Scriptureless Preaching

(Continued from page 4)

Seventh, he will certainly make a better appearance at the judgment seat of Christ than those who were sent as His ambassadors, but failed to obey their instructions.

Make it thy highest joy to wait on Him continually. As it was a joy for Him to have Mary at His feet, so it will be a joy to Him to have thee continually at His feet. The world is too busy to hearken unto Him. Many who call themselves Christian workers are occupied with things of no account, and they think they cannot take time to sit at His feet. Those who learn to wait continually at His feet, will be a delight to His heart. As they draw nigh to Him, He will

indeed draw nigh to them and will reveal Himself. He will reveal His perfect way. He will reveal hidden things, deep things. He will so empower those who wait upon Him that they shall be strong and shall go forth to do exploits in His name.

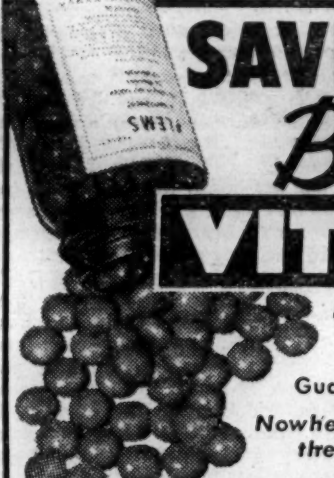
For in the hours of waiting on Him they receive a meat which the world knows not. To them comes the revelation of His good, acceptable, and perfect will; to them comes the heavenly transformation as they partake of the nature of the Christ, of His meekness, of His lowliness, of His strength, His life, His power.

Trying to Believe

It is a common thing to hear an anxious enquirer say, "I will try to believe." Now, this means, "I do not believe what God says, and I intend to remain an unbeliever, unless I get something more than His bare word to convince me." Trying to believe generally means persevering in giving God the lie. It is a sort of hard-hearted confession of present unbelief, and a cunning excuse for abiding in it. It insinuates that God is asking of us more than He ought, and we are generously doing our best to oblige Him; or else that what He has to say is so like a falsehood that we shall require a deal of explanation before we can accept it. Ask your own brother how he would like to hear you say to him, "I will try to believe you." You use no earthly friend in a manner so insulting.

Canon Hoare met with a man who said he was trying to believe, and he pictured him as lying at the bottom of a deep pit. The Lord Jesus was at the top, and the man was trying to climb up to Him. "You will never reach Him," said the canon. Month after month the man was still *trying*, but he had come no further; and he would never have come further if he had not altered his method, and just trusted Jesus to lift him out from where he was. If this man could have climbed to Christ by his own trying, he would have been out of the pit and needed no Saviour. We set Jesus aside when we think of doing anything in our own strength; ay, even when we talk of trying to believe in him. True faith comes by a conviction of the truth, and not by an effort of the will: it is therefore to be gained by yielding up the mind rather than by exercising any mental strength. A man does not try to recline, nor make an effort to fall, nor labour to learn. We mistake believing when we talk of it as some great and difficult achievement at which all must try and try again. No, dear heart, believe without trying. May the Lord win thy confidence at once!

If a man really wishes to believe anything, he hears about it, and when he is convinced that it is true he believes it. Thus faith cometh by hearing, not by trying. We hear the Gospel; we know it is true; we believe it, and live. We hear of Jesus; we are sure He can save us; we trust Him, and He saves us. What is there to try at in this? —C. H. Spurgeon



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The Master's Touch

(Continued from page 5)

not had His way. Give Christ His way, and He will heal completely.

Jesus Himself the Only Remedy for Sin and Sinners

No, my friends, your cure is the woman's. That may sound an old-fashioned thing to say, but there is more truth in it than you have realized yet. Listen. The woman's cure is your cure. Her cure came on the heels of everybody else's failure. Christ's cure always comes there. When people get to the end of things, then Jesus Christ bares His arm and shows His omnipotence, and declares Himself the mighty Saviour. He is a wonderful Jesus. Oh, it is not a quack you want, it is a specialist. It is not the preacher you want, it is not the missionary, it is not the lovely influences of a mission, it is not the beautiful hymns we sing, it is not seeing some great talker, some orator, some great brilliant speaker, it is

not being familiar with books or schools; it is Jesus—Jesus. It is not the Bible, for "the letter killeth." You may be familiar with it, you may have gone through it I do not know how many times, but till it goes through you you will not be any better. It is not in tramping to and from church. It is not in performance, it is not in ritual. Healing is in the presence of Jesus.

Soon after my father's conversion our tents were just outside Cambridge. My father could not read the Bible in those days, he was only a rough gypsy man, but he was saved, and he did the next best with his motherless children before he went to bed, he used to sing and pray every night. And, you know, when he and five children started to sing you could hear us a few fields away, and those dark, winter nights—I can see my father now—he would say, "Before we go to bed, my dears, we will have a hymn or two," and he would strike off. We had no idea that the people in the cottages across the fields heard the songs and came a little nearer to catch the words, or that they stopped while he prayed. It was a strange thing to hear a gypsy man pray in his tent. These people never expected it. And one woman, we heard afterwards, was smitten in her conscience about her sin, and she said, "Here is a rough gypsy man praying, and he is not praying for me to hear him, for he does not know I am here; he is not praying for other people to hear, for he does not know that anybody can hear him. Here is a gypsy man praying. How is it? I was brought up in a Sunday School, my mother was a good woman, I came from a Christian home, and I am a mother and never pray for my children." The arrow of conviction pierced her soul, and she went home with it sticking there, and it did not come out easily. For some time she said nothing about it, she kept quiet, but she suffered something of the agony that David must have felt when he said, "While I kept silence my bones waxed old . . . for day and night Thy hand was heavy upon me. My moisture is turned into the drought of summer." And I tell you when the light of God's holiness shines into a guilty soul it blisters it. One night her husband came home from work, and he saw there was something the matter, he had noticed it for some days, and he said, "Mary, what is the trouble?" She did not answer. "Mary, are you ill?" and still she kept quiet. "Very well, I knew it was so, I have seen a change in you for some days," he said; "I will fetch the doctor," and away he went.

As soon as he had gotten outside the door she sent her boy to the old tent, and when he got to the tent he said to my father, "Sir, my mother heard you pray some weeks ago and she has never been happy since, and she wants to know if you will come and pray with her." And father said, "Of course I will," and away he went, and when he got there he found the poor woman crying for mercy. It was not long before the plan of salvation had been pointed out to her and she was rejoicing in Christ. She had met the condition, and her burden had rolled away. Her tears had become telescopes through which she could see Jesus. Presently the doctor came with the husband.

She looked up at the doctor and she said, "Doctor, I have found Him, I have found Him!" He said, "My good woman, whom have you found?"

"Oh, sir," she said, "my poor soul has been hungry for Jesus, and I have found Him."

"Well," said the doctor, "you don't need me, for you have the best Physician the world ever saw."

And that is what I want to say to you: it is not this poor thing you want, it is Jesus. It is not these ministers. We are only fingers pointing, we are only voices crying; but, blessed be God, we do point and we do cry and we tell you in one concentrated, consecrated voice at this moment—

"Only Jesus
Can do helpless sinners good."

Only Jesus; and all the efforts of your own will only end in misery. You may hear preachers, you may say prayers, you may go to church, you may take communion, you may listen to quacks, you may hunt up religious nostrums, you may read books, you may long for healing and desire peace, and wonder when it is coming to you. It will never come till you come to Christ. Five minutes' honest, definite, intelligent dealing with Jesus Christ will cure your mischief, and nothing else will. That is the first thing I want to say.

Many Religious Moral Church-Going People Have Never Personally Touched Jesus in Saving Faith

The second is this, that there is a tremendous difference between thronging Jesus and touching Jesus. There were six hundred thousand people left Egypt for the promised land who never reached it. Two men out of the crowd reached it. They were touchers, the others were throngers; the others bleached their bones in the wilderness. There were many people at the Pool of Bethesda, but it was the one that stepped in first after the troubling of the water that was made whole; the others were throngers. Here is a multitude of people at this very moment crowding Jesus, speculating about Jesus, excited about Him, criticizing Him, elbowing Him, but one woman touched Him, and that made all the difference.

Which are you? Have you touched Him, or are you a thronger? Some of you throng Him on Sundays, you throng Him in the Sunday School or church. And you throng Him at missions, and you have been doing it, some of you, till your hairs are gray. In the name of God I tell you—and I tell you to startle you, I tell you to awaken you—in God's name I tell you, church-goer, you are a thronger; you have never touched Him yet, multitudes of you. If you had, your life would be different, for whatever Jesus touches is glorified.

Which are you now? You know deep in your heart. Don't make any excuse, don't shuffle; don't, I beseech you, get away from the main issue. Have you come into living, vital, saving contact with the Son of God? Because you will know if you have. I don't believe that doctrine which says you can be a Christian without knowing it. I believe that is a sop from Hell to soothe your conscience into saying "Peace" where there is no peace. You cannot be awake without knowing it; you cannot eat your dinner without knowing it; you cannot go to church without knowing it; and you must not tell me that a man can be born again and made a new creature, have his chains broken, his night turned into day and his blindness to sight, his Hell into Heaven, and not know it.

Listen. This woman knew; so will you when you have touched Him. This is one of the surest things in God's world, for a man that can look up into the face of Jesus, and say by faith, "Thou art my Saviour," has in his soul the joy that will some day make Heaven pulsate with hallelujahs; the man that could look up into the face of Jesus and say, "Thou art my light and my song, my sins are put away, my chains are broken, my Lord and my God," is sitting in the twilight of the coming glory. If he is not in Heaven, he is in the anteroom, and he is as safe as though he had been there a thousand years. For when God gets hold of a man He does not let go His grip. The Lord God Almighty take hold of you!

Have you touched Him? Do you know this? I am not asking what else you know—are you sure about this thing? Blessed assurance! Religious certainty is the certainty of religion. It is the ground, the bedrock, the indestructible rock beneath a man's feet upon which he can stand and say to the world, "Rage on, toss on, howl on, ye storms, and peal, ye thunders, and flash, ye lightnings, and break up, O ribs of nature, but it will be but the rocking of an infant's cradle as it lulls me to rest in the arms of Him who saves me, and keeps me by His grace." Have you got it? "Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!" Do you know it?

Are you sure of it? Because that is what He calls you to.

You say, "Are you not forcing something that is not in the story?" No, it is all here. The woman came in the crowd behind, and I can hear her as she comes limping, stooping, catching her breath, hardly voice enough to speak out loud, saying in a whisper, but saying it, "If I can only touch the hem of His garment I shall be healed"; as much as to say, "There is power enough in the threads of His coat to save an old woman." That is the faith that conquered Deity. "Only let me get to Him, and I shall be a new woman." Listen. She knew she was not healed, yet she says, "I shall be," and she touched, and what followed? She was made whole. The next verse says, "And Jesus, knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned in the crowd." What does that teach? This, my brother, this old-fashioned, despised doctrine, but it is going to have a resurrection in all the churches in England, this—His Spirit answers to my spirit, and tells me I am born of God. That is the doctrine. It is no new story. Jesus knew, and the woman knew; and Jesus will know and you will know, when you plough your way through the crowd—whatever the crowd may be for you—and insist on touching Him.

Have you touched Him? I know you are a member of the church, but have you touched Jesus? I know you are a professor, but are you a possessor? Can you say—

*Life immortal, Heaven descending,
Lo, my heart the Spirit's shrine,
God and man in oneness blending,
Oh! what fellowship divine!
Full salvation,
Raised in Christ to life divine.*

*Amazing grace, 'tis Heaven below
To feel the blood applied,
And Jesus, only Jesus, know,
My Jesus crucified?*

Is that your experience?—for that is what He calls you to, to put your feet on the neck of your foe, and to bound with gladness. Have you touched Him? If not, get a little closer now.

Now Confess Him Openly and Have Peace

And if you have touched Him, that leads me to the next thing. If you have touched Him you must confess Him. There is no such thing as getting healed and then being ashamed of the doctor. The man who is ashamed of the doctor is not worth healing. But there is no such thing as being a smuggler here; there is no such thing as playing hide-and-seek here. You must confess Him; He will see to that. If you are to get all He wants you to have, He will see you meet the conditions. She began in the crowd behind, she ended up on her knees in front of Him, where all grateful souls end. He said, "Where is she that touched Me?" and He looked round about to see her that had done this thing; and mark, He turned round, and when He turned round she was there. Don't you see, it was not as difficult as she thought. She thought she would get at His back; He gave her His face, and she knelt at His feet, and they made a ring there on the highway, and that was the inquiry room, and she told Him all the truth. Nobody hindered her, nobody checked her. She poured out her heart and her tears, and she told Him everything. He listened patiently, and when she had finished, and when she had told all, and He knew she had told the whole, He said, "Daughter, thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace."

If you want to have peace as an accompaniment, peace as a friend and companion, peace as the bloom and blossom of things, the music ineffable sounding forth in the life, let Jesus Christ come in and take the throne, and you will get peace.

Men and women, come out of your hiding. Never mind the crowd; Christ is here, and you can touch Him if you will. You can get where there is always room for another in His presence, at His feet. He will make room if nobody else does. He will see that you get a place right in front of Him, if you only make up your mind to struggle.

"But," you say, "what can I

do?" What could she do? She would not have been healed, she was not healed, without an effort, and you will never be saved without an effort. She seized her opportunity. Will you? Here was the Christ passing by. She made Him see her. She had only to touch the hem of His garment, but there was more in that touch than you think. The Lord help you to touch Him the same way, and you too will be made whole. Your night will break into lovely dawn, your misery into music, your tears will be kissed into jewels, your heartache into soul rapture, your lifelong agony will end in the joy of the presence of the risen Christ.

Oh, touch Him! Do not throng Him longer. It ends all one way—it spells failure, it spells loss, it spells agony. But touching means life. Oh, how I thank God I have touched Him! I do not know as much as some of you, but I know this, I had not your chance, your opportunities, but I got this one—I let nobody cheat me out of this—and I shall never forget how I knelt as a gypsy boy and said, "O God, I want to love Thee, I want to be saved, I want to be good, and I will be saved, and I will follow Thee." I do not know how, but I touched Him at that moment, and He accepted, and He touched me.

God help you to touch Him in the same way, and the grace that turned the gypsy tent into a palace will change your life from the poor miserable thing it has been into a thing of beauty and praise forever.

(Chapter V from the book, AS JESUS PASSED BY, published by Fleming H. Revell. Used by permission.)

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Scottish Preacher Against Sword

(Continued from page 1)

to ask that you should discontinue sending it for I find myself completely out of harmony with the spirit of many of the articles printed in the paper. That dissatisfaction has reached a peak with the current series on *The Interpreter's Bible*. Constructive criticism is the very spice of life. In this imperfect world no person or group of persons is capable of seeing or knowing all that is to be known on any subject. Constructive criticism widens the horizons of our knowledge and deepens the quality of our experience.

"In the articles in question, however, the author is not constructive. He takes up a position that his viewpoint is absolute and right and anyone who presumes to have any other point of view is, of necessity, wrong.

"1. The articles reveal a disastrous spiritual pride, the kind of pride which our Lord rebuked in some of the religious leaders of His day. The author seems to be convinced that his understanding of the Scriptures is the whole of truth concerning them. Anyone who disagrees with him is seeing and teaching untruth. Such an attitude is unworthy of the Faith he is seeking to defend. Paul was much more humble, he said 'For now we see as through a mirror DARKLY' . . .

"2. They are presumptuous. The author assumes the position of prosecutor, jury and judge and finally he condemns all who presume to have a different point of view from himself as 'infidels.' He attacks their integrity, which is quite unjustified. The whole attitude is in direct conflict with the command of our Lord—'Judge not that ye be not judged.'

"3. The articles are devoid of any attempt at reasoned argument. The author put up his skittles and knocks them down. Even worse they are devoid of ordinary courtesy. Invective is a weak support for any case. Our Lord warned His disciples against exclusiveness: 'And John answered him saying, Master, we saw one casting out devils in Thy name and we forbade him because he followeth not us. But Jesus said, Forbid him not: for there is no man that shall do a miracle in my name, that can lightly speak evil of me. FOR HE THAT IS NOT AGAINST US IS ON OUR PART.'

"Some of those authors so roundly condemned by your paper have been most effective winners of men for Christ.

"Like Paul I am a debtor to both 'Greeks and barbarians' as well as to Jews; to Evangelicals and modernists and liberals. To none of them will I allow the guardianship of my conscience. The Scriptures are the word of God because they speak the word of God to those who seek His word in them. They are not the Word of God because any man or group of men defines them so to be.

"As I have said already, I regret having to write this letter but I would not be honest with you or with myself or with God did I not do so. I appreciate all that has been constructive in the copies of *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* which I have received, but I cannot go with you or some of your writers in what I sincerely believe is an attitude which is a negation of the Christian spirit.

"Yours sincerely,"

(Signed)

James D. Yule

The Editor Answers That One Who Does Not Believe the Bible Should Say So Frankly Without Pretense to the Christian Position

October 1, 1956

Rev. James D. Yule
68 Rosendale Road, S. 1
Glasgow, Scotland
Dear Brother Yule:

I am sorry to have your letter suggesting that we discontinue sending *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*.

Of course we will stop *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* coming. Every man has a right to select his own reading, and, of course, to be judged by what he chooses to read and what he approves or disapproves.

However, it is only fair and proper that when a man disagrees and says so, his statements should be factual and frank. Perhaps, be-

cause you have unconsciously drifted into such an attitude—I do not know—your letter is not factual, and it reveals either a lack of frankness or some very serious confusion. To make charges such as you make against noble men of God, like the great preacher, Robert L. Sumner, should not have been done without a more honest appraisal of the facts in the case.

1. You accuse him of "disastrous spiritual pride," and you say it is the same kind of pride, "which our Lord rebuked in some of the religious leaders of His day." You say, "the author seems to be convinced that his understanding of the Scriptures is the whole of truth concerning them. Anyone who disagrees with him is seeing and teaching untruth." But even the most casual reader who honestly faces Brother Sumner's articles on *The Interpreter's Bible* must see that the point is not at all "anyone who disagrees with him" (Brother Sumner). He does not say that; the articles do not even hint that.

You infer that the whole matter simply hinges on how one interprets the Scriptures. Are you really as naive as that sounds, or is that insincerity? The simple fact is that there is an historic Christian position. On its major and fundamental points, all the great creeds of Christendom agree, and almost without exception for eighteen hundred years, every person who ever claimed to be a Christian held those essential doctrines. The deity of Christ, His virgin birth, atoning death, and bodily resurrection; the infallible authority and inerrancy of the Scriptures in original manuscripts, salvation on the merits of the atoning death of Christ; Heaven and Hell as the eternal abode of saved and lost—these doctrines constitute the historic Christian position, acknowledged by Catholic and Protestant, by Baptist and Pedobaptist, state church and free church. And the reason is very simple: these doctrines are not matters of interpretation. They are so clear and so often stated in the Bible, that one either believes or disbelieves; that is, one either takes a Christian stand or does not take a Christian stand. Jesus Christ Himself so solemnly affirmed all these doctrines that one either believes what Jesus Christ said or denies what He said. The essentials of the Christian faith, which *The Interpreter's Bible* deny are not matters of interpretation. I cannot believe that you are so ignorant on this matter as your language would indicate. And it makes me very sad indeed.

And for you to say that Jesus Christ is on your side of this matter, and that He favored the unbelievers and denounced those who defend the faith is not only preposterous, but the claim is wholly unworthy of any honest man with any training at all. You say on this matter that "Paul was much more humble (than Sumner), he said 'for now we see as through a mirror darkly' . . ." But Paul did not refer to the Scriptures being darkened or inadequate, and if you know anything at all about Paul's position in the Scriptures, you know that he commanded, "But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed" (Gal. 1:8). Paul was not indefinite, and he did not have the false humility you ascribe to him in this matter of defense of the faith. It was Paul who said about false prophets, like those he said would believe and teach like the writers of *The Interpreter's Bible*, "Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils; speaking lies in hypocrisy; having their conscience seared with a hot iron (I Tim. 4:1, 2). To quote Paul on the side of those who deny the authority of the Bible, deny the deity, blood atonement, virgin birth of Christ, is monstrous.

2. You say of the articles, "they are presumptuous. The author assumes the position of prosecutor, jury and judge and finally he con-

demns all who presume to have a different point of view from himself, as 'infidels.'" On the contrary, if you have read the articles at all you know that the point of issue is not Mr. Sumner's personal point of view, but the point of all the issue is the integrity of the Scriptures themselves. Mr. Sumner never hinted that one who differs from his viewpoint is an infidel. I, as editor, have never hinted anything of the kind. Mr. Sumner and I both use the term *infidel* in its plain dictionary definition as one who denies the inspiration of the Bible and the essentials of the Christian faith. We use that term about Paine, Ingersoll, Voltaire. We use the same term about other men who hold exactly the same position concerning the inspiration of the Bible, the deity of Christ, the virgin birth, as the other infidels.

Again your lack of frankness and your dishonest use of language appears when you say, "like Paul I am a debtor to both 'Greeks and barbarians' as well as to Jews; to Evangelicals and modernists and liberals." One could not possibly misrepresent Paul further than that. People who deny every essential that Paul preached and wrote by divine inspiration do not earn the respect of decent, honest men when they pretend that their unbelief is the same attitude as that of Paul's.

Now you and I believe in every man's own personal, individual accountability to God. You have a perfect right to say that the Bible is not true, to say that historic Christianity was wrong. For the sake of the argument only, suppose we admit that perhaps you are right and Paul and *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* and all those

who believe that God gave both the matter and the exact words of the Scriptures in the original manuscripts (I Corinthians 2:13), and that Christ is God come in the flesh—suppose I say, that Paul and all the Christian creeds and Bible-believers generally are wrong. And we will have to suppose, too, in that case, that Jesus Christ was wrong in His estimate of the Bible, in His promise of rising bodily from the dead, in His claim that He gave His life to save others. Suppose that you who do not believe the Bible are right and that we Bible-believing Christians are very simple and ignorant people who are wrong. It still remains dishonest for a man to claim to be a Christian who is not one, and to pretend that he agrees with Christ and Paul when he denies every essential that they taught.

So let's keep the record straight. It would appear to me that you do not want *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* because you do not believe the historic Christian position: that you prefer the company of infidels who do not believe the inspiration of the Bible and the essentials of the Christian faith as held through all the centuries and as stated in all the great Christian creeds and so you do not like those who defend that faith and preach it.

While I would not agree with you, I would respect you if you just stated the matter honestly. A man has a right to be an unbeliever, but no man has a right to be crooked and dishonest. And this dishonesty is inherent in liberalism and is itself its greatest condemnation and the greatest proof of its falsity.

In Jesus' name, yours,
John R. Rice

Will the Rapture Precede . . . ?

(Continued from page 1)

who differ. J. J. Scruby, who has influenced most present day post-tribulation rapturists calls pre-tribulation rapturists "exegetical crooks," "false prophets," and their teaching "damnable heresies." He thus includes Torrey, Moody, James Gray, A. T. Pierson, Dr. Ironside, P. W. Philpott, just to name a few. How any person could be influenced toward post-tribulation rapture by Mr. Scruby's venomous book is a mystery to me. I prefer the attitude of Dr. R. A. Torrey, versed in both Hebrew and Greek, who on presenting pre-tribulation rapture said, "We shall indulge in no bitterness or cheap attempts at satire. They are entirely out of place in any honest search after the truth." That is my own position. I can have happy fellowship with my premillennial brethren who differ from me on this question. I have served some of them in their churches as evangelist. Agreement on the details of prophecy is not necessary to loving fellowship with Bible-believing Christians. We both agree in the main fact that our Saviour is coming back to take us to Himself. We differ as to when that blessed event will take place.

The Right Answer Will Harmonize Scriptures

I claim that the right answer to our question will harmonize the Scriptures. The wrong answer may get us out of one difficulty, but will land us in many more. The correct answer will enable a preacher to stand before his people and present an orderly sequence of events connected with our Lord's return. A wrong interpretation will seriously affect one's whole ministry. Some of our fine young preachers have become almost silent on the glorious truth of Christ's coming because they are confused as to the time of the rapture or have accepted post-tribulation teaching. They seldom preach on "that blessed hope." They scarcely ever mention the Lord's coming as an incentive to service and holiness on the part of Christians, and as an urgent reason for immediate repentance by the unsaved. I doubt if the truth would seal anyone's lips. A wrong interpretation might, the truth—never. The right answer will produce clarity, not confusion.

The Second Coming Involves a Series of Events Taking a Period of Time

A further fact must be noted,

and I cannot stress the importance of it too much: THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST IS A PERIOD OF TIME, AND NOT ONLY A POINT OF TIME. This is the key to the whole problem. Just as at Christ's first coming we have a group of events covering a period of years yet all constituting His first coming, so there are several events in connection with the coming of Christ and the end of the age, and these events, taken together, constitute the second coming of Christ. To insist,

(Continued on page 8)

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So philosophy calls it, but the Word of God uses simpler and clearer language. "It was necessary," Paul told the Jews at Antioch, "that the Word of God should first have been spoken to you." That is, as if he were to say, "I can't help myself; it is a categorical imperative!"

The imperative lies inherently in the very nature of the case. The natural procedure is to start any Gospel program with the Jew. Sentiment calls for it; gratitude requires it; and, above all, God commands it! So powerfully was this conviction borne in upon the conscience of Paul, and so important did he consider Jewish conversion, that he cried out, "I could wish that myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren . . . who are Israelites!"

Dear child of God! Will you not ask Him to let you see Israel as He sees her? And when you do, a new joy and a new blessing will come to you. Try it. We feel that some day you will thank us that you did.

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Will the Rapture . . . ?

(Continued from page 7)

as Alexander Reese does, in a book much followed by those misled here, that "the last day" in Scripture is "the last day of this present evil age, the first of the age to come" is a statement easy to disprove, yet much of the argument in his book is built on that wrong premise. What about Luke 21:26, where Jesus speaks of the end time as "the days of the Son of man." The word "days" here is absolutely decisive. Jesus would come, we are told "to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God." To insist that this is a 24-hour day means that the "year" is a calendar year! The Thessalonians believed they were in the Great Tribulation and that the day of the Lord had set in, or was already begun. How then could it be a 24-hour day? They believed the day of the Lord was a period of time, not a single day, and that they were living in that period. It is as clear as sunlight that the day in question is a period of time, and not one literal day.

Within this period called "the time of the end," "the end of the age," "the day of the Lord," "the days of the Son of man," "the revelation of Jesus Christ," and similar phrases, there are, we believe, two different stages of Christ's second coming. The first stage is His coming in the air, the second is His coming to the earth, but it is all His second coming. Dr. Henry Frost on page 145 of his book on Matthew 24 writes: "While the second and future coming of the Lord is divided into two parts, the coming for the saints (2 Thess. 2:1; 1 Thess. 4:13-17) and the coming with them (1 Thess. 3:13; 2 Thess. 1:10), it is not to be concluded that a long period of time is divinely set between these portions, for if it were, there would be two future comings instead of one."

I find this argument in all I read against pretribulation rapture. Dr. Frost's statement contains a very frank admission but also an unjustified conclusion. He recognizes an interval between the two parts of the coming, but insists that they must be continuous or there would be two comings.

I would ask this simple question of any SWORD reader, since the Bible states that Christ at His first coming came out of Bethlehem, and also that He came out of Egypt, does that make His coming two first comings? How anyone can fail to see that the coming of the Lord embraces a number of events, all of which are connected with, and are part of His coming, is a mystery to me. The tribulation judgments cover a period of years, and the Book that describes those judgments is called "The Revelation of Jesus Christ." How clear that this time of unveiling is a period, as well as, on other occasions, it is a point of time.

The Great Tribulation Brings Unexampled Misery, God's Judgment on the Earth

Look now at the Bible description of the Great Tribulation and you will understand why deliverance from it is promised to be church.

Jeremiah says, "Alas! for that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble" (Jer. 30:7).

Isaiah prophesies, "The earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof; because they have transgressed the laws . . . Therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate: therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left" (Isa. 24:5-6). The words "few men left" tally exactly with our Lord's own words, "except those days be shortened, there should be no flesh saved."

Micah tells us that "God will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the nations, such as they have not heard." He says further concerning Israel, "According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvelous things. The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might . . . They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their holes like worms of the

(Continued on page 9)

Our Babies Have Real Talent!

No, we are not bragging about the gifted children and grandchildren of the Sword Staff workers, altho we think they are really something! What we have reference to this time is our BOOK BABIES, the life-transforming SWORD OF THE LORD pamphlet library.

These baby books, most of them by Dr. John R. Rice and selling for only 15c each, have been remarkably blessed by God in doing the job for which they were born. Some have been used to win hundreds to Christ. Others have taught young Christians how to effectively fight for our Lord in the

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Will the Rapture Precede . . . ?

(Continued from page 8)

earth: they shall be afraid of the Lord our God" (Mic. 7:15-17). Here is a clear statement that God will repeat the plagues of Egypt in the coming tribulation. This corroborates the Book of Revelation and proves beyond dispute that the judgment plagues of Revelation are literal plagues.

Daniel calls it "a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation" (Dan. 12:1).

Christ amplifies Daniel's statement and says, "For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be. And except those days should be shortened, there should no flesh be saved" (Matt. 24:21, 22). Jesus here states that the unparalleled sorrow and anguish, plagues and convulsions of nature, judgments from above and beneath, will so deluge the nations that unless God in mercy had shortened the period of wrath the entire human race would be exterminated. It is right there in Scripture before us, and to be believed, not to be explained away.

But God's most detailed description of the tribulation is in the Book of the Revelation. There we are told that the Devil will be on earth incarnate in an evil personality, the Antichrist. This infamous person will be supreme on earth, having power over all flesh (ch. 13:7). Red waves of war will deluge the nations (probably atomic war, ch. 6:4). The only preaching, specifically mentioned during this period will be by two witnesses clothed with supernatural power, and an angel of God flying over the earth calling on men to repent (chs. 11 and 14). Every believer who does not worship the Antichrist will be slain, unless supernaturally preserved. It is the time of God's wrath upon unbelieving men living on the earth. The seal judgments, the trumpet judgments, and the vial judgments are all called the wrath of God. It is of paramount importance to our subject to note this (chs. 6:17, 11:18, 15:1).

Mark particularly, there are believers on earth during this period, for God never leaves Himself with-

out a witness, but they are not called the church. The church or churches are mentioned nineteen times in the first three chapters, but from then onward to the end of the tribulation in chapter 19 the churches or the church are never mentioned. How significant!

I have taken much space to present the Scriptures on the Great Tribulation because the whole answer to our question lies here. Imagine Alexander Reese lightly dismissing this awful cataclysm when millions will die in the judgments of God as "the trials and tribulations of the last days." You see, if Mr. Reese were right he would not have to belittle the solemn words of Scripture in order to prove his position. IF WE FAIL TO APPREHEND THE MEANING OF THE TRIBULATION, THEN WE SHALL FAIL TO SEE THE NECESSITY FOR PRETRIBULATION RAPTURE.

But No Scripture Plainly Says the Church Will Go Through the Tribulation

If the church is on earth during the tribulation then the last few years of her earthly sojourn will see her under the power, and given into the hands of the merciless Antichrist. Think of it! Millions of Christians the world over given into the hands for martyrdom, so that the church of the last days will wade to Heaven through a sea of her own blood. It may be so, but I will say here and now that if it is so, then we may be absolutely certain that God in His Word will have much to say to the church, and in very clear language, preparing her for such a unique and universal disaster.

And that leads me to the heart of this discussion. Where, I ask, in all the Bible, is there one plain passage that tells us in clear, unmistakable language that the church will be in the Great Tribulation? Certainly if the church is in it, the Bible will plainly say so. Where is there one such passage? Even one? I can sincerely say I have searched the

Scriptures from beginning to end and I have never found one. And I think I can say truthfully that in all the books I have read against pretribulation rapture I have never seen quoted one clear, unequivocal Bible statement that told us in simple language that the church would be on earth during this awful time of God's wrath. Plenty of inference? Yes. Certain "saints" will be martyred? Yes. Difficulties connected with pretribulation rapture? Yes, I honestly admit it, just as there seems to be difficulties connected with several other Bible truths. But that is all I have found. I have yet to see one positive Bible statement that declares the church will be on earth during the Great Tribulation.

Now does that sound too strong a statement to make? If so, I will ask our SWORD readers to consider the following meaningful fact: A post-tribulation writer concludes his recent book with this honest admission, "With the exception of one passage, the author will grant that the Scripture nowhere explicitly states that the church will go through the Great Tribulation." The passage in question (Rev. 20:4), as I understand it, certainly does not explicitly put the church in the tribulation, yet apart from that debatable passage this able writer knows no other passage that does.

Now is that without significance? What clear prophecy foretells such an overwhelming catastrophe befalling the church of Christ as to be deluged with the wrath of God? Scripture tells us there will be trials and persecution of Christians all during this age. Concerning such trials certain believers rejoiced that they were "counted worthy to suffer," but this overwhelming calamity of world judgment is so essentially different from ordinary trials, that far from counting ourselves "worthy to suffer," Jesus told us earnestly to pray that we might be "accounted worthy to escape" it.

But the Bible Does Teach That the Church Will Be Taken Away Before Tribulation

And, now I ask, have we any clear Bible statements telling us the church will be removed from

earth before the Great Tribulation? There are several. And in addition there are several passages corroborative, if not so compelling, which taken together, teach pretribulation rapture.

Take Luke 21:35, 36, a prophecy given to the church. Here our Lord is describing the Great Tribulation as comparison with Matthew 24 proves. Jesus says, "For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man." The meaning is clear as crystal: the tribulation will fall on the godless world with the suddenness of the closing of a trap. What about the church? The true believers will be "accounted worthy to escape all these things." Note, not half of these things of judgment, but "worthy to escape all."

The word "escape" here has but one meaning. It does not mean "worthy to be preserved in" as post-tribulation writers labor to explain. The tribulation saints do not escape. They are "overcome" by the beast (Rev. 13:7); they are "given into his hand" (Dan. 7:25).

Our next passage is Revelation 3:10—"Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." Here is a definite promise unto the faithful in the churches that they will be kept from the hour or period of tribulation. Page after page has been written to explain away "keep thee from," and to make it mean "keep thee in." Why do so? The Holy Spirit directed the use of the Greek preposition "ek" not "en." Why seek to vitiate this clear promise?

In Revelation 19:7, at the close of the tribulation, we have the first mention of the church (as the Bride) since the tribulation judgments began in chapter 6 and she is shown to have been in Heaven during this time of God's wrath. "And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude . . . saying, Let us be glad and rejoice . . . for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready." Now it takes a wife a while to make herself ready! Where did this preparation of the church take place? It was in Heaven at the judgment seat of Christ during the tribulation and before Christ is seen in verse 11 descending from the skies. Where will there be time for the judgment seat of Christ and the preparation of the Bride for the triumphant advent if not before His descent? Thus, Scripture, properly co-ordinated, har-

monizes the whole.

After describing the rapture in I Thessalonians 4:13-18 Paul explains in chapter 5:9 the why of the rapture. He says, "For God hath not appointed us to wrath." Of course He hasn't. Why would He? The wrath here, as the context shows, is the wrath of the tribulation, or "the day of the Lord" as it is frequently called. And how is the church to be saved from this period of wrath? He has already told them but now repeats it. The church will experience salvation from the wrath of the tribulation by being raptured to Heaven. The church will "obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ. Who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep [at that time of wrath], we should live together with him." We shall be caught up, both the living and dead believers, into Heaven and so escape the outpoured wrath.

Take also the promise in my text, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am, there ye may be also." This description of the rapture as an event complete in itself agrees exactly with Paul's description of the rapture in I Thessalonians 4. Both descriptions show that the rapture not only brings the church to Heaven—it leaves her there, at least for a period. In no passage describing the rapture does it ever speak of an immediate descent to earth again.

When we turn to the types of Scripture we have the same consistent answer. Before God poured the judgment of the flood upon an ungodly world in Noah's day, He first placed the believers in the ark. Then, and not until then, did the judgment fall. The believers remained in the prepared place "lift up above the earth" until the period of judgment was over. How clear! Before God rained fire on Sodom, He first, by supernatural agency, removed the believers from the doomed city, a prediction in type of the removal of the church before the fiery judgments of the tribulation begin.

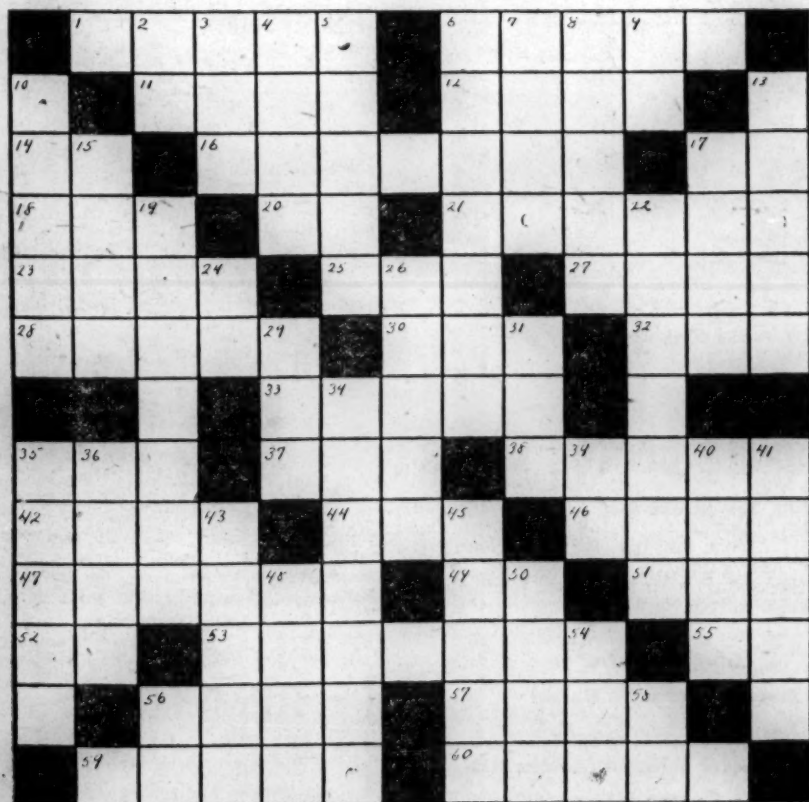
We Cannot Know the Time of Christ's Return

We might approach the question from another angle. Suppose the church goes through the tribulation; then, we shall know the exact date of Christ's coming! The latter half of the tribulation is three and a half years, 42 months, 1,260 days. All one would need to do is count 1,260 days from the breaking of the covenant between Israel and the Antichrist and he would have the exact day of Christ's coming. Will my readers believe that some post-tribulation-

(Continued on page 11)

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3. To have this puzzle count toward receiving your copy of the featured book-of-the-month, your entry must be postmarked by midnight, JANUARY 19, 1957. If your paper arrives after the deadline date, please send the answer and tell us the date your paper arrived. Each weekly entry will be checked, and you will receive a post card if your entry is correct. SAVE THESE CARDS. THEY ARE IMPORTANT. When you have four cards, mail them to me, and you will receive the book offered for that month. The answer to puzzle No. 2 will appear in the January 25th issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

is an interesting but difficult job. A Christian must take special care in selecting his books. Not only should he have larger clothbound volumes, but he should have a good supply of booklets, pamphlets, and some larger paper-bound books. He, of course, is concerned not only about his own reading, but about what he can lend others.

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Puzzle Number 2

Clews Across

1. First bird released from the ark.
6. Number of days before Noah sent out a second bird
11. That of which Noah drank too much
12. Implore
14. Look! Behold!
16. Storming
17. Group founded by General William Booth (abbr.)
18. Aged
20. Major General (abbr.)
21. In closer proximity
23. Family to which the olive tree belongs
25. Possess
27. Grandson of Shem, son of Noah (abbr.)
28. Begins to grow light
30. Slacken speed (phonetic spelling)
32. Gaelic form of John
33. No doubt there was one of these in the ark: Ant —
35. Pronoun
37. Rearrange Mae
38. Confusion and noise
42. In a line, successively (obscure) — r —
44. Money valued at 2½ shillings in the Domesday Book (1086)
46. The bird sent out which returned the second time with an olive branch
47. Wood of which the ark was made
49. Exist
51. Abounding in rains
52. Like
53. One of the two main biological kingdoms
55. Emphatic sound which means "Be quiet!"
56. A spot or stain
57. Son of Lamech who found

Clews Down

59. More than one goose
60. Ire
2. Expressive or disgust (slang U. S.)
3. Vigor (Scotch) — r
4. City of Judah (Josh. 15:34)
5. Loud and prolonged cry of the horse
6. Rod bearing a bobbin
7. A sea eagle
8. Vestment adorned with the names of the twelve apostles (Armenian) V — — —
9. "Ye" backwards
10. The Deluge
13. Desert in Arabia P — — —
15. Jar (Spain, Spanish America) — — —
17. Rock-City of Idumaea (Isa. 16:1)
19. Flower
22. Arc—a promise
24. One
26. Flower
29. Large body of water
31. A spherical body
34. One of the Canaanitish tribe (Josh. 3:10)
35. Mother of Ishmael
36. God of love, Greek equivalent of Cupid (myth.)
39. In the year of our Lord (Latin) (abbr.)
40. Nights before
41. River in Hades whose water when drunk caused forgetfulness (Greek myth.)
43. Mammal that lives in water
45. River of Damascus of which Naaman, the leper, spoke
48. Son of Seth (Gen. 5:6)
50. A Hittite—the father of Esau's wife Bashemath (Gen. 26:34)
54. Droop
56. Exist
58. Pronoun

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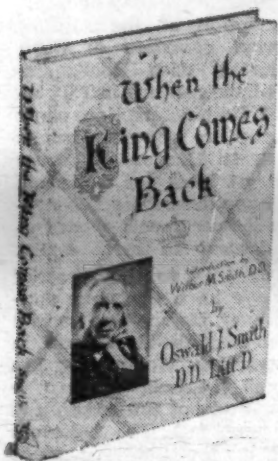
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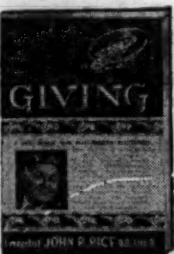
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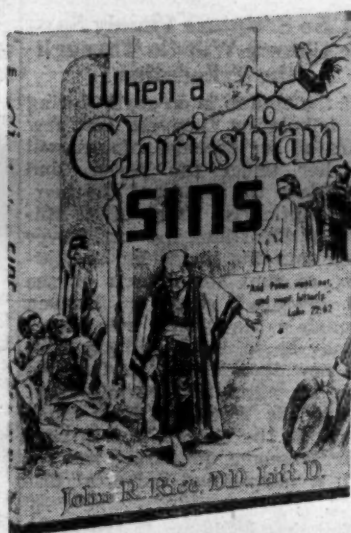
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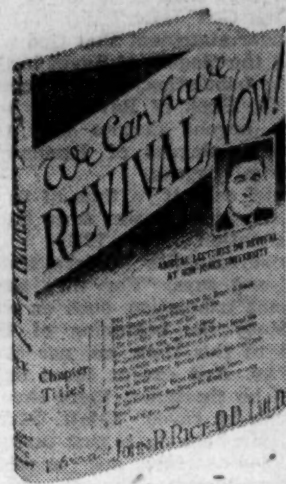
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... Elvis Presley Rage?

(Continued from page 2)

are, in a large measure, only conforming to the pattern set for them by a modernistic society. Modernism and its many evils has asserted itself like an ugly monster in virtually every phase of our national life. We have seen it in art when real talent has been laid aside and the finger-smearing, brush-dripping - atrocities called "modern art" have been exalted, praised, and brought to a position of fame and recognition.

In the field of education, the experimental theories of John Dewey have all but wrecked our educational systems. Young people and kids have been told to do as they please and let society be damned! School teachers have long since lost their apprehensions over apples with worms in view of the increasing tendency of parents to sue any faculty member in the local grade school who dares to administer discipline to misbehaving brats.

Modernism in music has advanced nowhere as rapidly as in America. Musicians must still have genuine talents in most countries of the world to make a living, gain an audience and achieve recognition in their field. Not so in the good old U. S. A.! It seems that the more completely insane and ridiculous a musician can become the greater his chance at success. The Elvis Presley fad proves this point emphatically! Who can deny that the mental level of most popular songs these days could hardly surpass the intelligence of a high-grade moron? Thank God for the fact that most popular songs don't stay popular too long!

"You Ain't Nothing But a Hound-Dog," which is one of Mr. Presley's most popular tunes, frankly leaves me cold. And I hardly think I could be classified as a "square," for those who know me personally know that I love young people, am definitely not the staid, straight-laced type at all, and have a great host of friends among young people wherever I have pastored churches or preached in revival meetings. This hit number is a classic example of what modernism has done to the cultural life of America.

In the realm of religion, modernism has made an even more deadlier impact. From pulpit and classroom young people have been told that the Bible is not the infallible Word of God and that there is no authority in religion but human experience and expediency. We have been taught for over a generation now, that it is wrong and a mark of mental weakness to show any emotional expression in religion. Polar Bear preachers have led iceberg congregations into believing that formality and religious ritual are the

essential ingredients for a successful Sunday morning worship service. Church members have been inoculated against an emotional appeal of any kind and requested to save their tears and exultations of joy for release at the next movie or athletic event. In view of the wretched spiritual conditions under which most of these young people have been reared, how can we blame them entirely for letting off emotional steam when Presley starts his "bump and grind" burlesque routine? They are emotional beings and are going to find an outlet somewhere!

What then, basically, is responsible for the current Elvis Presley rage that is sweeping the country? I, personally, believe that the words of our text contain the sole explanation for it all. The Apostle John, by Divine inspiration, demands that those who name the name of Jesus Christ must not be guilty of loving the present worldly system or anything on which it is based. If someone cares to take issue on this viewpoint, he simply reminds them "that if any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." It makes no difference how much of a Christian a person may esteem himself to be, the Bible clearly teaches that one cannot love the world and the Father at the same time.

Men are only admitted into God's family by being born again. When sinners accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour, the Holy Spirit gives them the spiritual bath of regeneration. Those who have been washed or bathed in the blood of Jesus Christ have new spiritual natures; consequently, "... old things have passed away; behold, all things are become new." Nothing less than the transforming power of Jesus Christ can cause a sinner to no longer care for the things of this old "sin-cursed world. Frankly, I have no confidence in this modern-day version of Christianity which seeks to "save" men IN their sins rather than save them FROM their sins. My Bible teaches me plainly that Mary was instructed to name the Son of God "... JESUS, for he shall save his people from their sins." In the seventeenth chapter of John's Gospel, Christ said plainly that our citizenship changes when we become a Christian. Notice the words of our Lord in verse 16:

"They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world." Now, notice with me please, the next verse in our text, I John 2, verse 16. Here is the key to the message tonight, and it may well be the key to your own heart if you are present and have never been born again. What great sins are present here in the worldly system of human affairs that goes on about us every day that we live? The precious Holy Spirit gives answer clear and plain:

"For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world." One of the most remarkable facts about this passage of Scripture is that it tells us pointedly what are the basic sins of this entire worldly system! And beloved, let me further substantiate this analysis by reminding you that these are the same three avenues of temptation used by the Devil in his efforts to get Jesus to sin during the wilderness temptation that lasted for forty days! Old Satan knows our make-up better than we do ourselves. He literally "threw the book" at Jesus, trying desperately to tempt Him into sin. All the sins of life can be traced back to one of these three approaches to the human heart. It is on these three fleshly desires that the current Elvis Presley rage is based. Now, let us deal with them separately and make whatever applications the Spirit of God may lead us to consider.

I. The Lust of the Flesh

We are informed from the very first words of our text that this fleshly desire is not of the Father. It is as old as the race. Perhaps we can best define it by the power

of illustration. We read in Matthew, chapter 4, beginning with verse 1:

"Then was Jesus led up of the spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God."

It was not wrong for Jesus to be hungry after not eating for such a long period of time; however, it would have been wrong for Him to have put His own physical welfare ahead of the spiritual purpose for which He had fasted and prayed.

Hunger is a basic elemental need of the human body. But when that need becomes primary and is given first consideration in a man's life ahead of his spiritual needs, then that man commits sin. Christ commanded in Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Believe me when I tell you that the flesh has more than just one type of "hunger" or yearning! In the heart of every young person who is normal and natural for his years is a desire for adventure, thrills, and the opportunity to acquire some of the material possessions available in this life. These teenagers who react so hysterically to Presley's performances are, for the most part, I believe, sincere in their search for something in life to satisfy this human hunger of the heart. The forces of this world are constantly appealing to the appetites of the flesh and seek to convince young people that what it has to offer can truly satisfy. A certain brand of cigarettes, for instance, advertises their particular brand as being "... the cigarette that satisfies!" They could not afford to tell the truth and let these kids know that cigarettes do not satisfy anything but actually enslave a person to a vicious habit that is detrimental to both body and morals!

How I wish it were possible for me to let every young person in this great nation of ours know the genuine peace and permanent satisfaction that could be theirs if only they would receive Christ as Lord and Saviour of their lives! You cannot satisfy a yearning of the heart with material means. We are much more than just a physical creature, and God's only Begotten Son commands us to seek first the salvation of our souls and the righteousness of God. He then promises to see that the rest of life's needs will be supplied. Listen young people, I don't care what your quest in life might be this side of Jesus Christ, but don't commit the folly of thinking that you can offer God the fruit of your body for the sin of your soul! If you choose to put other desires of life ahead of your need of Christ, you play the fool and yield to this basic avenue of spiritual temptation to sin against God!

I am glad that you want to get the most out of life. I rejoice in the spirit of your youth. Nothing thrills me more than to see young folks smiling, happy and gay, and with a healthy, optimistic outlook on life. But "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap. For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting" (Gal. 6:7, 8). My prayer is that God will help you to look beyond the flesh for real satisfaction in life. It can only be found in knowing Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour.

And what I pray for you, I wish also that Mr. Presley could see. Recently, a reporter asked him if he knew what was responsible for the measure of theatrical success he had enjoyed. He replied that he didn't know why the public went for him in such a big way, but that he hoped that it would never stop. It doesn't make any difference whether it is a large sum of money or a small portion of this world's goods that you are lusting after. Whatever you put ahead of seeking God's will for your life comes between you and

Will the Rapture Precede ... ?

(Continued from page 9)

ists actually teach this? Nathaniel West says, "When the breach occurs between them (Antichrist and the Jews) in the middle of the week, then the determination of the year, perhaps the month, but never the day or hour will be certain."

But why not the day and hour on the same reckoning? People can count up to 1,260. So Mr. Scruby carries this to its logical conclusion and says, "The coming of Christ will occur ... 360 days to the very hour from the time that Antichrist will break the covenant." It will, of course, if post-tribulation rapture is true. Put this alongside Christ's words, "Ye know not when the time is" (Mark 13:33). The difficulty is inescapable.

Christ Promised His Coming Would Be A Sudden Surprise, Unheralded

There is one fact that has convinced many, when other arguments have failed. If the tribulation comes before the rapture, then every warning Jesus gave that His coming for the church would be unexpected and unannounced is rendered utterly meaningless. If there is one thing the Bible teaches it is that Christ's coming will catch unbelievers and indeed many believers utterly unaware. Take any of the many clear statements of our Lord on the matter of the unexpectedness of His coming and see if they make sense after a holocaust such as the Great Tribulation.

the Saviour. We must not live as if the welfare of the flesh were the most important issue of life.

II. The Lust of the Eyes

The second basic sin that Satan used to tempt Jesus was the lust of the eyes. It is an old trick of the Devil for he used it on Eve back in the Garden of Eden. "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes ..." (Gen. 3:6) she ate of it and gave to her husband, thereby causing

(Continued on page 12)

"But of that day and that hour knoweth no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father. Take ye heed, watch and pray, for ye know not when the time is. ... Watch ye therefore: for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at mid-night, or at the cockcrowing, or in the morning: Lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping."—Mark 13:32-36.

Can anyone picture Christians "asleep" as to the coming of the Lord during or at the end of the Great Tribulation? See the insuperable difficulty confronting the post-tribulationist here. Believers in the tribulation will be hiding for their lives. The Antichrist will see that they do not sleep.

Jesus said He would come "as a thief in the night." Does a thief send a notice telling when he will come? It is an undeniable fact of Scripture that the coming of Christ for His church is an event unheralded and unannounced by any preceding spectacular event. How then could His coming for us be unexpected and unannounced if the awful tribulation precedes it? This question is to me, and to the vast majority of prophetic students on this continent, absolutely unanswerable.

"Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh."—Matt. 24:44.

—THE END—

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... Elvis Presley Rage?

(Continued from page 11)

both of them to sin against God. Matthew's account of the temptation of Christ on this point says:

"Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them. And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me."—Matt. 4:8, 9.

Let us remember that little adage which says, "All that glitters is not gold!" Satan always tries to make sin attractive. He makes generous offers that appeal to us through the avenue of sight. His display of the kingdoms of this world to Jesus was not an idle gesture.

Has it ever occurred to you that almost all of life's temptations to sin are channeled through the medium of sight? No wonder Jesus made this statement found in Matthew 6:22-24, "The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light. But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great is that darkness! No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

When you watch Elvis Presley begin his hip-moving display on either television or a personal appearance show, you are compelled to admit that the main basis of his appeal must be the sensual movements that he is making. I have eaten in restaurants where his records were being played, and I have never seen any teenagers scream, become hysterical, or go into a "trance"! My appreciation for good music of all types is as normal as that of anyone else, I'm sure; however, I cannot for the life of me evaluate the bodily movements of this young entertainer as being anything less than vulgar and sexy!

Music is a spiritual force ordained of God. We incorporate music into our worship of God at His command. There will be music in Heaven that will praise God for eternity. But my friends, it is my conviction that the so-called musical talent of Elvis Presley has achieved a new low in spiritual degeneracy! I do not believe for one moment that any spiritual person could classify his brand of burlesque as being anything but "worldly"!

Even as Jesus refused to be taken in by the Devil's temptation through the appeal to the eye, so I pray earnestly tonight that you who have never been saved will not succumb to Satan's wiles. He is clever. You cannot see through his devices without the power of God's Holy Spirit. I hope that everyone of you will not gamble with your eternal soul by delay, but, rather, will come tonight in the invitation—trusting Christ to save your soul and give you spiritual insight for life's trials.

Oh, I know that it will be a battle for you to surrender to Christ. Old Satan can make sin mighty appealing to a young person. He can window-dress liquor, illicit use of sex, smoking, dope addiction, and gambling so that you can't see any harm in it. "But the wages of sin is death . . . And when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." See the final end of yielding to sinful pleasures which Satan makes appealing to the eye. Oh, may God help you not to be fooled any longer, and I pray that you will get saved tonight! There is a place called Heaven to gain and a place called Hell to shun.

III. The Pride of Life

There is no sin so common to man as the pride of life. Where murder, adultery, and theft have slain their thousands, pride has slain her tens of thousands! May I refer you again to the fourth chapter of Matthew, verses five and six:

"Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, and saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it

is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone."

Here we see the Devil tempting Jesus to use His divine power for selfish purposes. The only possible accomplishment that could have come out of such a display as that would have been to feed the fleshly lust of pride! Of course, our sinless Saviour rebuked the evil one and upbraided him with the Word of God for attempting such a temptation.

Nothing seems quite so tempting and enticing to young people as the public acclaim and popular favor of the crowd. Many a fine young person has been led into sin by a wicked and unruly crowd who taunted and jeered until morals and training were forgotten. Once a "fad" begins to sweep this country, it seems that some teenagers feel obligated to see that it continues. But we must remember that the Bible says:

"Thou shalt not run with a multitude, to do evil."

It takes real courage and deep conviction to stand alone for God when folks all around you are following the fashionable trend. Just because the worldly crowd is currently pursuing Elvis Presley and his sensual antics is no reason for serious-minded young people to jump on the bandwagon and say, "me too!" Very few people, including a lot of professing Christians, are willing to forsake their pride and stand alone, if necessary, in order to put God first! There can be no question but what this sin—the pride of life—is basically responsible for a great deal of the following that Presley and many others like him have obtained through the years.

Let me ask you pointedly and personally; are you willing to deny yourself and the opinion of the crowd in order to follow Jesus Christ? No one can deny that the Presley rage is of the world, and listen to what the words of our text say about that: "And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof" (I John 2:17). You see, it may cost something in the way of worldly prestige or fleeting fame in order to serve God now. But take the long look! This whole worldly system will one day pass away. What difference will it

make then whether the so-called popular set liked you or not? I plead with you to realize that pride must be forsaken if you are to be saved and live for God. Oh, young people, if you want someone to idolize and cherish, by all means let it be Jesus Christ! The most unselfish act that this world has ever heard about was the willingness of our Lord Jesus to die on the cross for sinners like you and me.

Your influence can mean so much to those about you if you are wholly given to Christ. What do you aspire to be before the world? Please do not let the pride of life blind you in this consideration. Remember that Jesus said: "If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matt. 16:24-26). And what I desire for you, I could wish also for Elvis Presley. What a blessing he could be for God if he were leading young people to Jesus Christ rather than exploiting their youthful passions for selfish purposes. But he more than likely feels that he has "arrived" or reached the very pinnacle of success. If he were offered his salvation tonight, he would probably say, "No thanks, I'm on the top." One thing for certain, he surely needs our prayers for salvation.

In closing, notice the last sentence of our text—"but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever." (I John 2:17b) You say, "Preacher, what is the will of God for my life?" Let the Bible answer that question for you. Listen to II Peter 3:9, "The Lord . . . is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." Yes, God wants you to repent of your sins, turn your back upon sin, and accept the Lord Jesus Christ by faith as your personal Saviour. And when you obey the will of God for your life to this point, you will understand what it means to abide forever. You see, "He that hath the Son, hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life." (I John 5:12) May God help every unsaved person in this building to receive Christ right now as we bow our heads in prayer before the Gospel invitation.

Difference Between Jamie and Jock

(Continued from page 1)

find yourself singing, 'Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine!'

"Here are a few verses which mark the difference between you and me, and you will see that it will not cost you a farthing to come over to the other side. Matthew 11:28: 'Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.' I have spiritual rest because I have come to the Lord Jesus by faith. You admit that you have no such rest; but the moment you take Him at His Word and come, rest is yours.

"John 3:16: 'For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.' By the grace of God, I am not going to perish, for I do believe in Him. Only place yourself in the 'who-so-ever' and you, too, will have everlasting life.

"Acts 10:43: 'To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins.' I have the remission of sins which you say you do not have. But again, find yourself in the 'who-so-ever,' the difference will be gone.

"Romans 3:24: 'Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.' I am justified (meaning declared righteous) through the redemptive work of Christ. You do not claim this now; but when you avail yourself of the work of Christ on the cross, you, too, will be freely justified.

"Romans 10:9: 'That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in thine heart that God hath raised him

from the dead, thou shalt be saved.' I am saved because I have complied with the conditions here laid down. You do not claim to be; but if you will 'confess' and 'believe' as stated in the text, you, too, will be saved.

"First Peter 1:23: 'Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God which liveth and abideth forever.' I am born again. You do not, as yet, say that you are. But believe what the Word of God says about you as a sinner (Rom. 3:23) and Christ as a Saviour (I Tim. 1:15), the difference will be gone, for you will be 'born again.'

"First John 5:13: 'These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life.' I KNOW that I have eternal life—not because I am better than you, or others; but because I know the meaning of His name. He was given the name Jesus, for He was to save people from their sins (Matt. 1:21). This He did by taking the penalty due to those sins—death (Rom. 6:23). The moment you believe in that name (Acts 4:12), you, too, will have eternal life and know it."

With an earnest appeal that Jock would carefully study these and other Scriptures, the friends parted for the day, Jamie to keep his appointment in the country, and Jock to read—as he had never read before—those portions of God's Word to which his attention had been called.

Early the next morning Jock appeared at the elevator. His first question was: "Jamie, did you ever know a Scotchman who would not take a good thing which

What I Think About ... Elvis Presley

(Continued from page 2)

been imitating Elvis Presley, was suspended from classes 11 days ago. He has not attended since. In the courtroom, jammed with teenagers, he announced: "I'm still not going to get my hair cut."

It seems to me this is certainly adding to juvenile delinquency.

Recently a news reporter asked Elvis if he didn't think he was responsible for juvenile delinquency. He replied, "If I did I would quit and go back to driving a truck." Well, I believe it is about time he quits.

We have been in over forty cities this year in revivals and spoken to high school student bodies across the nation. Thousands have found genuine peace and

permanent satisfaction in Christ. My prayer is that God shall save Elvis Presley. His life as a born-again Christian could mean much to the cause of Jesus Christ. It thrills my soul to think of the impact made for Jesus Christ by the noble decisions of Colleen Townsend and Stuart Hamblen who turned their backs on the SINS of Hollywood and a promising movie career to serve Jesus Christ.

There can be no question that a real spiritual awakening would take place in America among the teenagers if Elvis Presley were to become a spirit-filled witness for Jesus Christ.

Take the world and Elvis Presley, but give me JESUS.

Questions Answered

(Continued from page 3)

good works, or by church membership or baptism, of course I know by the Bible he is not saved any such way. But as for risking my own judgment, estimating and passing judgment by what I see or think I know about his life or character, contrary to his own profession of faith in Christ as his Saviour, that I have no right to do, Jesus forbids it. To do it is to be self-righteous, a "hypocrite" is the term used by Jesus Himself about exactly this matter, in Matthew 7:5.

You say, "You are putting a club in the hands of hypocrites to injure the true saints." Well, praise the Lord, may the "hypocrites" lay on heavy on the "true saints" with this club, till the "true saints" quit this wicked, self-righteous sin and beg God to forgive them for disobeying one of the plainest commands of their Lord and Saviour! I hope they do! I hope everywhere there is one who thinks himself appointed to pluck up the tares before the time of harvest, and throw away all the bad fish before the Master fisherman draws in the net at the last and turns it over to the angels, everywhere one raises "holier than thou" eyebrows and decides this one is not saved, or he would live better, and that one must be a hypocrite, be-

was offered him for naught? I have not refused the 'gift of God which is eternal life' (Rom. 6:23).

There was a real rejoicing that this lost one had been found. And there was joy in Heaven over the matter, as well (Luke 15:7).

Jock explained that he had been under the impression that salvation was for those who were good enough to merit it. "But," said he, "that gave me no hope, for I knew I was a sinner. 'All have sinned and come short of the glory of God' (Rom. 3:23). But when I found it in the Bible that Christ came not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance (Luke 5:32), and that it is not by works of righteousness, but according to His mercy He saves us (Titus 3:5), and that the water of life is for whosoever will take it (Rev. 22:17), that settled the question for me, I took it, and now I can say as you do, I have eternal life and shall never perish."

Kind reader, this narrative, which is founded on an incident in real life, is meant to show the difference between any two persons, one of whom has been born again, and the other who has not.

To which class does the reader belong? God's Word declares, "I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth" (Ezek. 18:23, 32). And He "would have all men to be saved" (I Tim. 2:4).

But the God of all grace has reserved Himself the right to make the terms by which we may pass from death to life. These terms are fixed on the righteous basis of redemption by blood (Heb. 9:22).

If you were the only sinner on earth no less a sacrifice than the Son of God Himself could purchase your redemption from eternal death (I Pet. 1:18, 19).

Will you make the change? Hear His loving appeal: "Look unto me and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth" (Isa. 45:22).

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31).

cause he does not see eye to eye with the self-appointed judge on doctrine or amusements or separation, or is backslidden; I say I hope in every such case the judged turn on the judges with this club of Matthew 7:1-5 and Luke 6:37!

For that is exactly what Jesus said would happen. If you judge, you shall be judged. If you condemn, you will be condemned. He said, "Judge not, that ye be not judged. For with what judgment ye judge, ye shall be judged; and with what measure ye meet, it shall be measured to you again" (Matt. 7:1, 2). May all the judges have this club used on them! It is exactly what Jesus promised. Thus may all of us learn not to judge lest we be judged, condemn not so we will not be condemned, and to forgive so we shall be forgiven.

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